



Greater Monterey County IRWMP » Economic Screening Tool

Instructions for Project Sponsors

This guide is designed to help project sponsors complete the Economic Screening Tool. This tool is intended to help project sponsors collect and share information about the potential economic benefits and costs of projects submitted for acceptance into the Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (GMC IRWMP). The goal of collecting this information is to provide GMC IRWMP project ranking and selection subcommittees information about the economic effects of individual projects to consider as part of the larger project review process. **It is not intended to serve as a benefit-cost analysis.** It is designed instead to solicit preliminary information about the types of benefits and costs the project is likely to generate.

As a project sponsor, your job is to complete the accompanying spreadsheets as completely as possible. You have two tabs to focus on:

- The **BENEFITS** tab has questions about the economic benefits your project is likely to generate
- The **COSTS** tab has questions about the economic costs of your project.

The cells in the **SUMMARY** tab are linked to information entered in the **BENEFITS** and **COSTS** tabs and the formulas in these cells calculate a summary that project reviewers may use to quickly review the overall economic effects of the project in one place. The calculations in the SUMMARY tab operate automatically as information is entered into the **BENEFITS** and **COSTS** tabs.

Answer the questions as completely as you can, based on the information you have now. Use the description boxes to explain if information is in development or will be available at a later date.

LINKS TO SECTIONS (use these links to navigate through this document quickly):

[BENEFITS WORKSHEET](#)

[General Project Information](#)

[Project Effects](#)

[Evidence of Demand for Project's Effects](#)

[Distribution and Equity Considerations](#)

[COST WORKSHEET](#)

BENEFITS WORKSHEET

Project Applicant(s) and Project Title

Has an economic analysis already been completed for this project?

Please type in the name of the project applicant(s) and the project title.

General Project Information

Has an economic analysis already been completed for this project?

If any kind of economic analysis (e.g., benefit-cost analysis, cost-effectiveness analysis, feasibility analysis, etc.) has already been done, answer YES and provide a brief description of the conclusions. You may want to attach this analysis when you submit your application.

Have alternatives to this project been proposed?

If alternative solutions have been proposed to address the goals of the project, use the dropdown menu to select YES. If you know there haven't been any alternatives proposed, select NO. If you're not sure, leave the dropdown menu in the "Please Select..." position. If YES, answer the next question:

Have the alternatives to this project been analyzed for economic and technical feasibility (e.g., cost and performance?)

If so, select YES.

Is this project for a disadvantaged community (DAC)?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. You will have an opportunity to identify the DAC in the final section of this tab.

In the current set of guidelines for economic analysis from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), DAC communities have the option of completing a cost-effectiveness analysis instead of a full benefit-cost analysis. Project reviewers will be instructed to take this into account in this screening process as well.

Project Effects

For each of these project effects below, the benefits you describe should be consistent with the benefits and project effects described in the rest of your project application.

1. Water Supply Enhancement

Will the project result in additional water supplies?

If the project will increase the amount of water available for new users or uses, answer YES to this question. Some examples include:

- Increase efficiency of current water use (e.g., through new irrigation techniques, fallowing irrigated land, or repairing leaking pipes), freeing up water for downstream users and uses.

- Increasing water availability for household or municipal use, by building new infrastructure (e.g., a new well or storage facility), assuming water is not otherwise allocated.

Provide a brief description of the how the project will accomplish the effect.

This project will primarily increase the supply of (check all that apply):

Indicate the source of the increased water supply (surface water or groundwater).

Will the project improve water supply reliability by increasing supply, reducing demand, or improving water system performance?

If the project will improve the reliability of water supplies throughout the year for end-users, answer YES to this question. Some examples include:

- The project reduces the risk or probability of an outage in the delivery of water to residential customers by upgrading aging infrastructure.
- The project increases available supply of drinking water by fixing leaks, reducing the risk of water shortages when alternative supplies aren't available.
- The project supports the installation of efficient irrigation equipment, reducing agricultural demand for water and increasing the likelihood that other water users would experience shortages.

Will the project increase storage, system capacity or otherwise decrease variability in supply?

If the project will increase water delivery capacity, storage capacity, and/or help maintain delivery and capacity during low flow months and droughts, answer YES to this question.

What is the likely end use of the additional supplies (check all that apply):

Indicate how the increased water supply is likely to be used (Agricultural use, Municipal/Domestic Use, or Environmental/Instream Flows). If, for example, the project simply conserves water and you don't know how it will be used, check UNKNOWN.

Is technical information available to estimate the quantity of additional water?

In other words, do you know how much water will be available or saved because of the project, compared to current conditions? If yes, you will be able to input this quantity in terms of acre-feet per year below.

What is the estimated quantity that will be supplied for each of these uses?

If sufficient information is available to estimate, input the amount of water the project will produce or make available in acre-feet per year. We have provided a value for this water that is supported by the literature. This value may or may not be the most appropriate value to apply to your project, but for the purposes of this screening exercise, it provides a monetary estimate to estimate the general magnitude of the economic effect.

On a scale of 1-5, how certain are these effects?

Answer this question with regard to the project's ability to produce or conserve additional water, and the likely quantity of water, if estimates are available.

- 5 – It is highly likely (almost certain) that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. All resources are available to initiate the project, assuming it is funded, and scientific/engineering studies have demonstrated high probability of effects materializing as predicted. Resources are also secured to ensure the project will continue operating as planned over its lifespan.
- 4 – It is reasonably likely that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. Similar projects have demonstrated a record of success. Resources are more than likely available to ensure continued operation. Some questions and uncertainties remain, but they are well characterized and resources are available to adapt the project plans if necessary to achieve the described effects.
- 3 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. The answers provided here are best-guess estimates based on expert opinion and preliminary studies, but some uncertainty exists because studies and planning activities have yet to be completed to provide assurance that all resources will be in place and plans will unfold exactly as described.
- 2 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated, but the information provided here represents best-guess estimates based on what is generally understood about local conditions and expected project design. Studies have not yet been completed for this project specifically, and experience from other, similar projects suggests that the effects may be variable and uncertain.
- 1 – It is not certain at all that these effects will materialize. These are best-guess estimates based on what we'd like the project to accomplish, and what we think is possible with available resources.

How long would it take for these benefits to materialize?

Select from the dropdown menu the general timeframe when these benefits are expected to start. For example,

- If the project is expected to break ground in 2015, and users would begin to enjoy water supply benefits three years later, select “Within 5 years of project start.”
- If the project is expected to break ground in 2015, but the project would not be fully functional and capable of producing benefits until 2021, select “Longer than 5 years after project start.”
- If some benefits would start accruing during the first five years, but the project would not generate the full amount of benefits until later, select “Within 5 years of project start.”

How long into the future would these benefits persist?

The answer to this question should align with the lifespan of the project. Is there an engineering lifespan that would limit the project’s ability to continue providing benefits without major investment? Or does the project initiate self-sustaining changes that would continue generating the effect more or less indefinitely?

2. Water Quality Enhancement

Will the project improve water quality?

If the project will increase the quality of water available for users, answer YES to this question. Provide a brief description of the how the project will accomplish the effect.

Are there other water users in the watershed who will directly benefit from these improvements in water quality?

Indicate YES if there are clear cause/effect relationships between changes in water quality parameters and benefits to other water users. Examples may include:

- Downstream water treatment facilities that will experience reduced costs for treating water.
- Downstream water users who will face lower costs due to reduced wear and tear on pumps.
- People who enjoy sensitive species that will benefit from water quality improvements (e.g., anglers, recreators)
- People who recreate in or near the water and will be able to enjoy better quality recreational experiences because of cleaner water.

Do people currently experience increased costs associated with the water quality problems that the project would address?

Answer YES if the water quality problems that the project would address currently impose costs on any human population. Examples of costs include:

- People having to purchase bottled water due to nitrate contamination in local wells.
- Municipalities spending additional resources to remove contamination from drinking water.
- Municipalities having to pump groundwater from deeper aquifers to avoid contamination.

Will the project reduce the likelihood of water quality violations (e.g., TMDL violations):

If the project is likely to reduce the risk of water quality violations for water users and/or water managers, answer YES.

What is the primary source of the pollutants or negative water quality impacts that this project will reduce?

Choose the category that best fits the source of the pollutants that the project is targeting.

Which pollutants and/or negative effects will this project address?

Check the pollutants in the list that the project will affect.

Is technical information available to estimate the improvements described above?

If you describe the improvements in water quality in terms of specific pollutants and amount of improvement or reduction (depending on water quality parameter), select YES in the dropdown menu. If possible, please summarize this information in the space provided.

Which pollutants/effects do you have quantitative information for?

Check the pollutants in the list that you have technical, quantitative information about how the project will affect. At least one category should be checked if you answered YES to the technical information question above.

How much sediment deposition will the project avoid?

In the space provided, enter how much the project would reduce sediment deposition. An estimate for the monetary value of this reduction will be calculated automatically from the information provided.

On a scale of 1-5, how certain are these effects?

- 5 – It is highly likely (almost certain) that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. All resources are available to initiate the project, assuming it is funded, and scientific/engineering studies have demonstrated high probability of effects materializing as predicted. Resources are also secured to ensure the project will continue to operate as planned over its lifespan.
- 4 – It is reasonably likely that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. Similar projects have demonstrated a record of success. Resources are more than likely available to ensure continued operation. Some questions and uncertainties remain, but they are well characterized and resources are available to adapt the project plans if necessary to achieve the described effects.
- 3 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. The answers provided here are best-guess estimates based on expert opinion and preliminary studies, but some uncertainty exists because studies and planning activities have yet to be completed to provide assurance that all resources will be in place and plans will unfold exactly as described.
- 2 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated, but the information provided here represents best-guess estimates based on what is generally understood about local conditions and expected project design. Studies have not yet been completed for this project specifically, and experience from other, similar projects suggests that the effects may be variable and uncertain.
- 1 – It is not certain at all that these effects will materialize. These are best-guess estimates based on what we'd like the project to accomplish, and what we think is possible with available resources.

How long would it take for these water quality benefits to materialize?

Select from the dropdown menu the general timeframe when these benefits are expected to start. For example,

- If the project is expected to break ground in 2015, and users would begin to enjoy water quality benefits three years later, select "Within 5 years of project start."
- If the project is expected to break ground in 2015, but the project would not be fully functional and capable of producing benefits until 2021, select "Longer than 5 years after project start."
- If some benefits would start accruing during the first five years, but the project would not generate the full amount of benefits until later, select "Within 5 years of project start."

How long into the future would these benefits persist?

The answer to this question should align with the lifespan of the project. Is there an engineering lifespan that would limit the project's ability to continue providing benefits without major investment? Or does the project initiate self-sustaining changes that would continue generating the effect more or less indefinitely?

3. Environmental Enhancement

Will the project restore, protect, or enhance natural habitat?

If the project will improve existing habitat or create new habitat, answer YES to this question. Provide a brief description of the how the project will accomplish the effect.

Is technical information available to estimate the type, scale, and quality of the habitat affected?

Select YES or NO from the dropdown menu if you can you describe the habitat type that will be affected, how many acres, and other technical details of the project's effect on habitat.

Which types and how many acres of habitat will be restored, protected, or enhanced by the project?

If sufficient information is available to estimate, check the type(s) of habitat the project would affect, and indicate how many acres. We have provided a value for each type of habitat that is supported by the literature. This value may or may not be the most appropriate value to apply to your project, but for the purposes of this screening exercise, it provides a monetary estimate to estimate the general magnitude of the economic effect.

Will the project restore, protect, or enhance habitat for any federally or California state listed species?

Select YES or NO from the dropdown menu. If YES, indicate which species would be affected in the space provided. If you are unsure about species and/or their listing status, please click the link (blue text highlight) to be taken to an online list.

Will the protection, restoration or enhancement of habitat described above increase carbon sequestration?

Select YES or NO from the dropdown menu. If YES, and if technical information is available to estimate the amount of additional carbon (beyond what is currently sequestered) the enhanced habitat would sequester, provide the quantity of carbon sequester in terms of metric tons of CO₂ per year.

On a scale of 1-5, how certain are these effects?

- 5 – It is highly likely (almost certain) that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. All resources are available to initiate the project, assuming it is funded, and scientific/engineering studies have demonstrated high probability of effects materializing as predicted. Resources are also secured to ensure the project will continue to operate as planned over its lifespan.
- 4 – It is reasonably likely that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. Similar projects have demonstrated a record of success. Resources are more than likely available to ensure continued operation. Some questions and uncertainties remain, but they are well characterized and resources are available to adapt the project plans if necessary to achieve the described effects.
- 3 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. The answers provided here are best-guess estimates based on expert opinion and preliminary studies, but some uncertainty exists because studies and

planning activities have yet to be completed to provide assurance that all resources will be in place and plans will unfold exactly as described.

- 2 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated, but the information provided here represents best-guess estimates based on what is generally understood about local conditions and expected project design. Studies have not yet been completed for this project specifically, and experience from other, similar projects suggests that the effects may be variable and uncertain.
- 1 – It is not certain at all that these effects will materialize. These are best-guess estimates based on what we'd like the project to accomplish, and what we think is possible with available resources.

How long would it take for these benefits to materialize?

Select from the dropdown menu the general timeframe when these benefits are expected to start. For example,

- If the project is expected to break ground in 2015, and new habitat would begin to provide benefits for some species three years later, select “Within 5 years of project start.”
- If the project is expected to break ground in 2015, but the project would not produce meaningful ecological benefits until 2021, select “Longer than 5 years after project start.”
- If some ecological benefits would start accruing during the first five years, but the project would not generate the full amount of benefits until later, select “Within 5 years of project start.”

How long into the future would these benefits persist?

The answer to this question should align with the lifespan of the project. Is there a definite lifespan that would limit the project's ability to continue providing benefits without major investment? Or does the project initiate self-sustaining changes that would continue generating the effect more or less indefinitely?

4. Flood Protection

Will this project reduce the risk of flooding?

If the project will reduce the magnitude, timing, or frequency of flood events, answer YES to this question. Provide a brief description of the how the project will accomplish the effect.

Will the project reduce the number of buildings and/or human lives lost in the event of a flood?

If the project is likely to have these effects on flooding, select YES in the pull-down menu.

Is the project likely to alter flood maps and/or reduce flood insurance premiums?

If modeling results have shown that the project is likely to affect flooding in such a way as to change FEMA flood maps or otherwise affect a community's flood insurance rating, resulting in reduced premiums or insurance carriage mandates for homeowners, select YES in the pull-down menu.

Has a FEMA benefit/cost analysis been performed for the project?

If the project has already been analyzed using FEMA or similar benefit-cost tools to estimate the economic benefits of the project, select YES in the pull-down menu.

This project will reduce the... (check all that apply):

Indicate in the check boxes how the project would affect flooding.

Is technical information available to quantify the effect on flooding?

Have studies been done to describe the actual reduction in the number, magnitude, or frequency of flood events attributable to this project? Choose YES or NO in the pull-down menu.

Which of the following land use categories will experience a reduction in flood risk as a result of this project (check all that apply, provide acreage if available):

Indicate the types of land uses the project would protect from flooding. If modeling has been done to estimate the amount of acreage that would experience reduced flooding effects, input those estimates in the space provided.

Which of the following infrastructure categories will experience a reduction in flood risk as a result of this project (check all that apply):

Indicate the types of physical infrastructure the project would protect from flooding in the check boxes.

On a scale of 1-5, how certain are these effects on land use and infrastructure?

- 5 – It is highly likely (almost certain) that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. All resources are available to initiate the project, assuming it is funded, and scientific/engineering studies have demonstrated high probability of effects materializing as predicted. Resources are also secured to ensure the project will continue to operate as planned over its lifespan.
- 4 – It is reasonably likely that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. Similar projects have demonstrated a record of success. Resources are more than likely available to ensure continued operation. Some questions and uncertainties remain, but they are well characterized and resources are available to adapt the project plans if necessary to achieve the described effects.
- 3 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. The answers provided here are best-guess estimates based on expert opinion and preliminary studies, but some uncertainty exists because studies and planning activities have yet to be completed to provide assurance that all resources will be in place and plans will unfold exactly as described.
- 2 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated, but the information provided here represents best-guess estimates based on what is generally understood about local conditions and expected project design. Studies have not yet been completed for this project specifically, and experience from other, similar projects suggests that the effects may be variable and uncertain.
- 1 – It is not certain at all that these effects will materialize. These are best-guess estimates based on what we'd like the project to accomplish, and what we think is possible with available resources.

How long would it take for these benefits to materialize?

Select from the dropdown menu the general timeframe when these benefits are expected to start.

How long into the future would these benefits persist?

The answer to this question should align with the lifespan of the project. Is there an engineering lifespan that would limit the project’s ability to continue providing benefits without major investment? Or does the project initiate self-sustaining changes that would continue generating the effect more or less indefinitely?

5. Recreation

Will the project improve existing recreational areas or facilities and/or the quality of recreational opportunities?

If the project will affect existing recreation opportunities, either in terms of quality or quantity, select YES and describe the effect. Some examples of this type of effect may include:

- Improving water quality in areas where water-contact recreation is popular (e.g., upstream of a swimming hole)
- Improving habitat along an existing hiking trail by planting native vegetation or removing invasive species.
- Improving access to a river for small boats as part of a riparian restoration effort.

Provide a brief description of the how the project will accomplish the effect.

Are data available to quantify the current levels of recreational uses that the project might affect?

If quantitative information is available about the number of users, user-days, or other measure that describes the level of use of the particular recreational resource the project would affect, select YES. If you are unsure, leave the dropdown menu at “Please Select...” If you are confident that there are no data available, select “No.”

Will the project create new recreational opportunities?

If the project will create new recreational opportunities, select yes and describe the effect. Some examples of this type of effect may include:

- Building an interpretive trail as part of an urban stormwater retrofit project.
- Opening a newly restored area of habitat to the public for birdwatching.

Provide a brief description of the how the project will accomplish the effect.

Are there similar recreational opportunities already available in the area?

For example, if the project is creating a trail, are there other trails in similar habitats or settings that are within a short drive of the project site? The relevant proximity may be subjective: think about the population the project is intended to serve and whether they already have access to a similar resource.

If so, do these recreational areas already experience high levels of use during the year?

If the answer to the previous question is YES, consider whether those comparable recreation opportunities are currently well used or over-used. Do parking lots regularly fill up? Do trails or docks suffer from heavy wear and tear and need regular repairs? Even if the use is only seasonal, the answer to this question still may be YES.

6. Energy

Will the project increase renewable energy production?

If the project will increase the supply of renewable energy, select YES in the dropdown menu. Provide a brief description of the how the project will accomplish the effect.

Is technical information available to estimate the amount of energy produced, and how?

Select YES or NO in the dropdown menu.

What type of energy technology will the project employ and what is the expected output?

If you answered YES to the preceding question, enter the quantitative details in the space provided.

On a scale of 1-5, how certain are these effects?

- 5 – It is highly likely (almost certain) that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. All resources are available to initiate the project, assuming it is funded, and scientific/engineering studies have demonstrated high probability of effects materializing as predicted. Resources are also secured to ensure the project will continue to operate as planned over its lifespan.
- 4 – It is reasonably likely that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. Similar projects have demonstrated a record of success. Resources are more than likely available to ensure continued operation. Some questions and uncertainties remain, but they are well characterized and resources are available to adapt the project plans if necessary to achieve the described effects.
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- 2 – It is possible that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated, but the information provided here represents best-guess estimates based on what is generally understood about local conditions and expected project design. Studies have not yet been completed for this project specifically, and experience from other, similar projects suggests that the effects may be variable and uncertain.
- 1 – It is not certain at all that these effects will materialize. These are best-guess estimates based on what we'd like the project to accomplish, and what we think is possible with available resources.

How long would it take for these benefits to materialize?

Select from the dropdown menu the general timeframe when these benefits are expected to start.

How long into the future would these benefits persist?

The answer to this question should align with the lifespan of the project. Is there an engineering lifespan that would limit the project's ability to continue providing benefits without major investment? Or does the project initiate self-sustaining changes that would continue generating the effect more or less indefinitely?

Will the project result in reduced energy use?

If the project will reduce energy consumption, select YES in the dropdown menu. Provide a brief description of how the project will accomplish the effect. Some examples might include:

- Reduced water use often reduces energy use because less energy is required to pump and treat the water.
- Retiring old infrastructure may reduce energy use, even if replaced with new infrastructure that may use less energy.

Is technical information available to estimate the amount of energy saved?

Select YES or NO in the dropdown menu.

How much energy will the project save?

If you answered YES to the preceding question, enter the quantitative details in the space provided.

On a scale of 1-5, how certain are these effects?

- 5 – It is highly likely (almost certain) that these effects will materialize as described and quantified in the timeframe indicated. All resources are available to initiate the project, assuming it is funded, and scientific/engineering studies have demonstrated high probability of effects materializing as predicted. Resources are also secured to ensure the project will continue to operate as planned over its lifespan.
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design. Studies have not yet been completed for this project specifically, and experience from other, similar projects suggests that the effects may be variable and uncertain.

- 1 – It is not certain at all that these effects will materialize. These are best-guess estimates based on what we'd like the project to accomplish, and what we think is possible with available resources.

How long would it take for these benefits to materialize?

Select from the dropdown menu the general timeframe when these benefits are expected to start.

How long into the future would these benefits persist?

The answer to this question should align with the lifespan of the project. Is there an engineering lifespan that would limit the project's ability to continue providing benefits without major investment? Or does the project initiate self-sustaining changes that would continue generating the effect more or less indefinitely?

7. Other Community and Social Benefits

Does the project have a training or education component?

If the project will provide opportunities for the public or other stakeholders to learn new skills, gain information that could change their behavior in positive ways, or otherwise impart information, answer YES to this question. Some examples include:

- Providing training about how to install efficient lawn irrigation equipment.
- Providing interpretive walks in a natural area to local school children.
- Developing informational brochures to distribute to homeowners nearby a new low-impact stormwater facility.

Provide a brief description of the how the project will accomplish the effect.

How many people will the project reach in this capacity?

If known, provide an estimate of the number of people who will receive training or education.

Will the education or training result in any benefits not covered in categories 1-6?

If, by educating and training people, the project would produce other environmental or social benefits not described elsewhere, answer YES in the dropdown menu and describe in the space provided. Some examples may include:

- Additional water conserved as homeowners learn about and implement proper lawn care and maintenance (not quantified in benefit #1).
- Increased interaction among neighbors after being brought together for an informational event about a local stormwater project.

Does the project develop, test, or document a new technology or process for the region?:

Answer YES in the dropdown menu if the project includes any of these elements, and describe. Some examples may include:

- Field-test a new water quality sampling protocol being developed by researchers.
- Install a new monitoring system previously untested in the region, and document its functionality for future purchase decisions.

Will the project produce new data?

If the project has a data collection component and will produce new, useful data, answer YES and describe in the space provided.

How might the success or failure of the technology or process benefit others?

If there are specific ways that the actions implemented in the previous question will reduce the costs or enhance the benefits achievable by other projects or efforts, please describe in the space provided.

Will the project help to avoid, reduce, or resolve an existing resource conflict?

In cases where a project will occur in an area and with respect to a resource that has generated conflict in the past, indicate YES in the dropdown menu and describe in the space provided. Examples include:

- Threatened or actual legal action over use or misuse of a resource, or over a particular activity.
- Pending regulatory action caused by scarcity or noncompliance with legal requirements.
- Community disagreement about the best way to solve a problem.

What measurable outcomes might this project lead to?

If the project is expected to help address an existing conflict, how would it achieve a tangible result? Please be specific in your description.

Will the project promote social health or safety in ways not already documented in benefits 1–6?

If there are ways the project will affect social health or safety in ways that have not already been addressed in other benefits (e.g., reduce the risk of flooding), please choose YES in the dropdown menu and describe. If you think that specific benefits identified above affect health and safety in ways that aren't adequately captured above, you may provide additional information here.

8. Other Sustainability Benefits

Will the project improve the overall, long-term management of California groundwater resources?

Some examples include

- Reduced extraction of non-renewable groundwater
- Promoting aquifer storage and/or recharge

If you answer YES, please describe in the space provided.

Will the project provide a long-term solution in place of a short-term one?

Answer YES to this question if the project offers a solution that will be self-sustaining, or that permanently addresses underlying conditions that currently result in costs, conflict, or other issues the project will help ameliorate.

Evidence of Demand for Project's Effects

Will the project produce effects or outcomes that address documented problems related to the scarcity of a resource?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please briefly describe. Answer YES to this question if the project is likely to produce effects that will alleviate problems related to scarcity. Examples of scarcity may include:

- Water shortages at a specific place and time (either for human use or environmental purposes).
- Congestion in existing or lack of availability of needed recreational opportunities at a specific place or time.
- Lack of flood storage or sufficient stormwater processing capacity, leading to flooding at a specific place and time.

Is the project likely to create or enhance goods or services for which there are no nearby or adequate substitutes?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please briefly describe. Answer YES to this question if the project is likely to produce effects that are desirable and for which there is no other reasonable way to achieve the effect. Examples of this may include:

- Supplying domestic water where the only other options include trucking in water or purchasing bottled water
- Restoring native habitat in an area (e.g., urban, suburban, or agricultural) where it no longer exists.

Is the project likely to result in reduced risk of loss of life or damage to property?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please briefly describe. Examples of this may include:

- Reducing flood or landslide hazards in a populous area.
- Reducing the risk of disruption to major transportation or communication infrastructure, or first-response and emergency facilities.

Is the project likely to result in reduced risk of disruption or restoration of critical services?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please briefly describe. Examples of this may include:

- Upgrading water treatment or delivery infrastructure to lessen the likelihood of major service disruptions.
- Environmental enhancement projects that increase the resiliency of natural ecosystems and reduce risks to built infrastructure.

Is the project likely to result in new information or initial action required to complete a larger project that would yield more, longer-term, or more widespread benefits?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please briefly describe. Projects that act as small-scale trials or demonstrations of new techniques often produce this type of benefit. In your description, provide evidence that this project is part of an overall strategy or plan that would yield further actions or effects that would produce additional benefits.

Distribution and Equity Considerations

Is the project likely to produce benefits that are distributed widely across many people, or concentrated among a distinct group of people?

Use the dropdown menu to select WIDELY DISTRIBUTED, CONCENTRATED, or BOTH. Briefly describe in the space provided. The answer to this question may depend on the benefit in question and the timing of the effect. Highlight effects that may be particularly distinct. Examples may include:

- This project will benefit a small minority community with limited access to resources. It would resolve an issue that has been a major impediment to any development and increase opportunities for future growth.
- This project would have the potential to reach all residents of a major population center. Even if per-capita effects are small, overall effects could be large over time.

Is the project likely to produce benefits that would be primarily enjoyed by a disadvantaged community?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please identify the DAC in the space provided.

Any Other Benefits...

Are there any other benefits likely to result from the project that have not already been described? Please use this section to fully describe other benefits not captured above.

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. This is your opportunity to describe any other benefits that have not been otherwise captured in this economic screening tool.

COST WORKSHEET

Has a cost estimate been developed for this project?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please provide the total cost of the project in the space provided.

Does this cost estimate include annual operation and maintenance costs?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If NO, please provide the additional average annual O&M cost in the space provided.

For how many years would these O&M costs be incurred?

Use the dropdown menu to select the timeframe over which O&M costs would be incurred. Usually this is the lifespan of the project.

Are these costs required to generate the benefits described in the BENEFITS WORKSHEET?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. In most cases, the answer to this question should be YES.

Are other costs required to generate the benefits described but not included in the estimate above, including in-kind donations, land acquisitions, and volunteer time?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please describe these additional costs. Project costs should include all costs required to generate the benefits described in the BENEFITS WORKSHEET. This includes costs that may have already been incurred. Examples of these types of costs include:

- The value of land purchases already made or donated.
- The value of donated materials of any kind.
- The value of donated time, including the hours of volunteers that are part of a structured volunteer program.
- The value of staff oversight time, even if staff salary is paid for in other ways.

What is the estimated value of these other costs?

If sufficient information is known about the value of these other costs, please provide an estimate in the space provided.

Would the project generate costs for others, not reflected in the total project cost?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please describe these additional costs. Examples of these types of costs include:

- Negative effects on nearby or downstream landowners, such as access disruptions, changes in stream flows, changes in views, or other changes that might be perceived as costs or losses of goods or services that are currently enjoyed.

Would the project be controversial, or otherwise generate conflict?

Use the dropdown menu to select YES or NO. If YES, please describe the nature of the controversy or conflict. Examples of these types of effects include:

- Nearby property owners uncertain of change.
- Implementation of an untested feature that may generate unexpected effects.
- Implementation of a solution that is unpopular to some stakeholders.