

Decision Support Tools in Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation



Decision support tools are the only non-implementation project type eligible to receive Proposition 1 Implementation funding. A decision support tool project should collect data and/or generate a model to support future water management decisions. Proposals for decision support tool projects should include a clear description of how data will be collected and used for future projects or the development of future programs (i.e., who will use the collected data, how the data will be used, and what decisions will be derived).

As defined in Proposition 1, decision support tools:

- Support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation.
- Evaluate the benefits and costs of multi-benefit stormwater projects.
- Model regional water management strategies to account for climate change and other changes in regional demand and supply projections.

Examples of Activities to Develop Decision Support Tool Projects

- Decision Support Tools that use community outreach and engagement activities (e.g., trainings, workshops, or site visits) to generate data (such as survey responses or feedback). Examples of data that can be collected to incorporate into models include community water needs; locations of disadvantaged, climate-vulnerable, or Tribal communities; data on water usage/demand; etc.
- Climate vulnerability analysis for decision support including identifying, mapping, and engaging vulnerable populations.
- Generating maps for decision support. Data that can be used in mapping tools include water demand and supply; water affordability; locations of drought-vulnerable areas; and locations of disadvantaged, climate-vulnerable, or Tribal communities.
- Economic cost/benefit analysis. Cost/benefit analysis can also incorporate climate change data and supply/demand data.
- Planning/project development activities can generate data that would be useful in climate change or supply/demand models. Information on community water needs, climate vulnerability, and demographics that are collected in the process of planning/project development may be useful for models.

Examples of Decision Support Tool Projects funded in Proposition 1 Round 1

Project Description	Description of Decision Informed by Project
<p>The project will create water budgets based on efficiency at the customer and retail water agency scale through the collection of aerial imagery, weather data, and other information.</p>	<p>Information collected as part of this project will help retail water agencies identify which customers are inefficient and target conservation programs, such as turf removal rebate programs, to those inefficient customers.</p>
<p>The project will sample from local water purveyors and individual well owners to identify likely sources of point and non-point contamination of local drinking water systems.</p>	<p>Information on sources of drinking water contamination will be used to inform future decisions regarding local water systems.</p>
<p>The project will conduct two research studies: 1) an indoor water use and fixture saturation study to assess the ongoing need for rebate or direct installation programs and 2) and outdoor study that focuses on landscape imagery analysis, including the creation of landscape water budgets, with the purpose of assessing customer landscape water use.</p>	<p>The results of the research studies will inform and influence current and future customer indoor and outdoor efficiency programs and related policy and funding decisions.</p>
<p>The project will collect data to be used in a tool that will assess the vulnerability of well locations to climate change conditions and contaminants. The tool will calculate a probability that a well will go dry in future drought scenarios or be contaminated.</p>	<p>The results will be used to guide selection of locations for future wells.</p>