



**2015 PROPOSITION 84 FINAL ROUND IMPLEMENTATION GRANT
PROJECT INPUT FORM**

Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County

IMPORTANT: It is important you review the Implementation Grant Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) documents before submitting a project for consideration. Pay particular attention to (1) project and applicant eligibility, (2) project benefits, and requirements for technical justification, budget, and schedule.

PSP

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/docs/p84_implementation/P84_IRWM_PSP_2015_Draft_2015_0312_Public.pdf

GUIDELINES

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/docs/p84_implementation/P84_IRWM_GL_Draft_2015_0312_Public.pdf

PAST APPLICATIONS CAN BE FOUND AT

http://www.ventura.org/wcvc/prop84/submitted_implementation_grants.htm

**Part 1. Lead Implementing Agency/Organizational
Information**

Please provide the following information regarding the project sponsor and proposed project.

Implementing Agency/ Organization / Individual:

Ventura Water (City of San Buenaventura)

Agency / Organization / Individual Address:

336 Sanjon Road, Ventura, CA 93002

Possible Partnering Agencies:

Casitas Water District
City of Santa Paula, City of Fillmore
City of Oxnard

Name:

Joe McDermott

Title:

Assistant General Manager

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Part 2. Project Information

Project Name:

Convert Your Turf Incentive Program

Either the latitude/longitude or a location description is required. To determine the latitude/longitude, use the closest address or intersection. If the project is linear, use the furthest upstream latitude/longitude.

Project Latitude: **Project Longitude:**

Location Description:	City of Ventura City Limits and boundaries of possible partnering agencies
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Project Cooperating Agency(ies)/Organization(s)/Individual(s):

• Ventura Water, City of Ventura

Project Status (e.g., new, ongoing, expansion, new phase):

New

Project Description

A general description of the proposed project is needed. This section will provide information associated with the project concept, general project information, and readiness to proceed.

Please provide a 1-2 paragraph description of the project including the general project concept, what will be constructed/implemented, how the constructed project will function, and treatment methods, as appropriate.

This would be a rebate program designed to incentivize outdoor water savings by removing water-intensive grass lawns and installing low water-use/drought tolerant plants in their place. Residents/commercial properties can apply for and receive rebates through a standardized process. Rebates will pay for up to \$2 per square foot for turf replacement and up to \$800 per property owner for parcels less than 1-acre and up to \$1,600 for parcels greater than 1-acre. Rebates will also pay for up to \$300 towards the installation of water-efficient irrigation systems, which can also include rebates for rain water harvesting equipment such as rain barrels/cisterns.



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This project will help save water and reduces both storm and dry weather runoff/runoff pollution. It can reduce green waste (lawn clippings) and improves air quality/noise (no lawn mower).

Please describe how the project does or could integrate with other projects in the Region.

Any city, unincorporated area of the county or areas served by a particular Water District could take advantage of this incentive program. Agencies served by Metropolitan Water District that already receive funds for landscape incentives can use funds from this grant to augment current funds that might be available.

If applicable, list surface water bodies and groundwater basins associated with the proposed project:

- Lake Casitas
- Ventura and Santa Clara Rivers
- Mound Groundwater Basin
- Santa Paula Groundwater Basin
- Oxnard Plain/Fox Canyon

Please identify up to three available documents which contain information specific to the proposed project:

- Ventura Water Wise Landscape Incentive Program
- Ventura Water Wise FAQs (Draft)
- Ventura Water Wise Terms and Conditions (Draft)

Is the proposed project an element or phase of a regional or larger program? No

If yes, please identify the program



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Required IRWM Project Elements – Please select at least one

x	Water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency
x	Stormwater capture, storage, clean-up, treatment and management
	Removal of invasive non-native species, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and the acquisition, protection, and restoration of open space and watershed lands
	Non-point source pollution reduction, management and monitoring
x	Groundwater recharge and management projects
	Contaminant and salt removal through reclamation, desalting, and other treatment technologies and conveyance of reclaimed water for distribution to users
	Water banking, exchange, reclamation, and improvement of water quality
	Planning and implementation of multipurpose flood management programs
x	Watershed protection and management
	Drinking water treatment and distribution
	Ecosystem and fisheries restoration and protection

Part 3. Project Need

Please provide a 1-2 paragraph description of the need(s) or problem(s) that the project will address. As applicable, discuss the water supply need, water quality need, or resource stewardship need (e.g. ecosystem restoration, floodplain management) need. Discuss critical impacts that will occur if the proposal is not implemented.

The Program will encourage residents and commercial properties to replace water intensive turf landscaping such as grass lawns with low water use landscaping. This could result in up to a 75% reduction in outdoor water use for program participants. Outdoor water use accounts for approximately 50% of overall water use for most single-family residential homes in Ventura and adjacent communities. By taking advantage of this program, property owners could reduce overall water use by over 35%! If 1,000 residents took advantage of this program, up to 120-acre feet per year of water could be saved. This reduces the regions dependents on



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diminishing water supplies. New outdoor landscapes will follow the Ocean Friendly Garden concept and eliminates potable water for irrigation by relying on rain and dew.

The Program will also help reduce storm runoff and will help reduce flooding. Program participants will be encouraged to install rain barrels and build “depressions” or rain gardens that look like dry creek beds that will help retain stormwater on their properties that could even allow water to percolate into the ground to help replenish groundwater. By reducing storm runoff, the Program will also reduce pollution that is often associated with storm runoff.

Part 4. IRWMP Objectives Addressed by Project

Describe how the project meets any of the following IRWMP objectives:

1. Reduce dependence on imported water and protect, conserve and augment water supplies	The Program focuses on outdoor water waste and will result in lower water demands to individual properties by as much as 35% per property.
2. Protect and improve water quality	Stormwater capture at individual properties and natural percolation into the ground will reduce the amount of storm runoff and pollution associated with storm runoff.
3. Protect people, property and the environment from adverse flooding impacts	Stormwater capture and individual properties and natural percolation into the ground will reduce the amount of storm runoff.
4. Protect and restore habitat and ecosystems in watersheds	The removal of grass turf, which is unnatural to much of Southern California, and replacement with native and drought tolerant plant species will help create new habitat for birds, insects and other wildlife.
5. Provide water-related recreational, public access, stewardship, engagement and educational opportunities	This is a water conservation project that after implementation, will allow for precious water saved to be used in other more productive ways, including recreation and habitat protection.
6. Prepare for and adapt to climate change	Climate change is likely to result in more frequent and longer duration droughts in Southern California. Implementation of this Program will help eliminate water waste and save diminishing supplies of water for better purposes.



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**Part 5. Program Preferences Addressed by the Project –
Check all that Apply**

x	Regional project or program - covers multiple watersheds
x	Effectively integrates water management programs and projects with a hydrologic region identified in the California Water Plan; the Regional Quality Control Board (RWQCB) region or subdivision; or other region or sub-region specifically identified by DWR
x	Effectively resolves significant water-related conflicts within or between regions
x	Contributes to attainment of one or more of the objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program
x	Addresses critical water supply or water quality needs of disadvantaged communities within the region
x	Effectively integrate water management with land use planning
x	Are part of an IRWM Plan that helps the region reduce reliance on Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for water supply
x	Addresses statewide priorities including climate change mitigation/adaptation (See PSP for detailed list)

Part 6. Project Readiness

Item	Status (e.g., not initiated, in process, complete)	Date
Conceptual Plans	Not Applicable	
Feasibility Study (or background documentation)	See Ventura Water Wise Incentive Program Plan	March 2015
Preliminary Design (i.e., 30%, 60%, 90%, 100%)	Not applicable	
CEQA/NEPA	Categorically Exempt	
Permits	Not required	



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Construction Drawings	Simple sketches by individual participants is required	
Detailed Schedule	Project can be implemented by no later than April 1, 2016 (sooner if allowed)	Will project go to bid by April 1, 2016? __YES__ yes/no Will project be completed by October 31, 2020? __YES__ yes/no
Detailed Budget Available	<u>YES</u> _____ (yes/no)	If no, indicate when will be provided:
Funding match of 25% or more. Please indicate	<u>YES-25%</u> (yes/no)	Source of match: Retained Earnings from Water Fund and/or Drought Water Rates

For projects that do not include construction, please briefly describe the project readiness-to proceed.

Part 7. Project Physical Benefits

Please provide a 1-2 paragraph description of the measurable physical benefits of the project. Quantify benefits to the extent possible (e.g., project will result in x acre-feet of water savings, project will benefit x acres of habitat) **IMPORTANT: Must be able to identify at least 2 quantifiable physical benefits.**



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For every 1,000 single family residential homes and/or commercial properties that participate, up to 120 acre-feet per year of water savings is anticipated. This assumes that each participant converts an average of 2,000 square feet of water intensive lawns.

For every 1,000 participants, the Program can create up to 2 million square feet of more diverse habitat for birds, insects, and small wildlife.

For every 1,000 participants, the Program can reduce storm runoff/flooding by 3 acre-feet for a 1-inch per hour storm event. This is because the Program encourages a holistic approach to conserving water, which includes the installation of rain barrels to capture runoff from roof tops.

Does the project address any known environmental justice issues?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
Is the project located within or adjacent to a disadvantaged community?		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
Does the project include disadvantaged community participation?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
If yes, please identify the group or organization: _____		

Part 8. Project Cost Estimate

Project cost information is needed to assist in comparing benefits and costs. Additionally, knowledge of the project type and cost will assist in identifying funding sources for potential projects.

Please indicate the estimated total capital cost for project implementation. These costs include land purchase/easement, planning/design/engineering, construction/implementation, environmental compliance, administration, and contingency.

Lower estimated total capital cost (\$): 2,250,000

Upper estimated total capital cost (\$): 2,250,000

Of the total capital cost, please indicate the estimated cost for land purchase / easement (\$): none

Annual Operation and Maintenance Cost (\$): none from grant program funds

Design Life of Project (years): 20+ years



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PART 9. Additional Information

Please provide answers to the following questions:

Have you applied for a Proposition 84 grant after January 1, 2012?	Yes
Have you adopted the 2014 IRWM Plan Update?	Scheduled for adoption April 27, 2014
Is your project currently listed in the 2014 IRWM Plan?	No
Can you provide a high-quality map of your project location?	Yes
For this final round of Prop 84 funding, project costs must be incurred after January 1, 2011 and eligible costs incurred after January 1, 2015. Is this a problem?	No
The Prop 84 grant is a reimbursable grant, meaning, you pay for costs up front and receive reimbursement at a later date. Is this a problem?	No
Can you provide staff to support the development of the application (eg., staff time and high level of understanding of the project)?	Yes
Does your project assist with the current drought, and how?	Yes – targets and reduces outdoor water use
Can you provide technical analysis for your project to support claimed physical benefits?	Yes



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NOTE: Your agency must be willing to accept all of the terms of the Grant Agreement executed by the Department of Water Resources. Boilerplate language that was used in Round 2 can be found at:

http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/docs/Resources/ContractTemplates/GrantAgreement_Template_P84R2_FINAL.pdf