



# KERN IRWMP

Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

## *Project Submittal Form*

To the extent possible this form should be electronically filled out and e-mailed to:

[KernIRWMP@kcwa.com](mailto:KernIRWMP@kcwa.com).

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

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

#### **Implementing Agency/ Organization / Individual:**

Self-Help Enterprises/ Rainbird Valley Mutual Water Company

#### **Agency / Organization / Individual Address:**

Self-Help Enterprise 8445 W. Elowin Ct. P.O. Box 6520 Visalia, CA 93290	Rainbird Valley Mutual Water Company 6330 Poplar St. P.O. Box 1222 Weldon, CA 93283
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#### **Possible Partnering Agencies:**

Long Canyon Water Company, Rainbird Valley Mutual Water Company, Tradewinds Water Association, Inc., Bella Vista Mutual Water Company, Lake Isabella Kern River KOA Campground, Sierra Vista Restaurant Self-Help Enterprises, California Department of Public Health

#### **Name:**

Armando Murrieta

#### **Title:**

Community Development Specialist

#### **Telephone:**

(559)802-1684

#### **Fax:**

(559)651-3634

#### **Email:**

armandom@selfhelpenterprises.org

#### **Website:**

www.selfhelpenterprises.org

#### **Project Name:**

Weldon Regional Water Project- Land Acquisition

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:

<b>Location Description:</b>	Weldon area water systems south of the South Fork of the Kern River.
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**Regional Grouping: Identify the Regional Grouping your *agency* is located in, and the Regional Grouping your *project* is located in.**

<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	Greater Bakersfield
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	Kern County
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	Kern County Water Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	Kern Fan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	Kern River Valley
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	Mountains/Foothills
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	North County
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	South County
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Project	West Side

**Project Cooperating Agency(ies)/Organization(s)/Individual(s):**

• Long Canyon Water Company (David Prince)
• Rainbird Valley Mutual Water Company (Susan Marches)
• Tradewinds Water Association, Inc. (Craig Sunderland)
• Bella Vista Mutual Water Company (Don Hyneman)
• Lake Isabella Kern River KOA Campground (Brian Cushman)
• Self-Help Enterprises (Armando Murrieta)
• SWRCB Division of Drinking Water, (Jesse Dhaliwal)

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

Ongoing
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## **Part 2. Project Need**

**It is important to understand the need(s) or issue(s) that the proposed project will address and the benefits that it will provide. Information provided in this section defines the need(s) or issue(s) that the proposed project will address and will help to catalog existing need(s) or issue(s) in the Tulare Lake Basin Portion of Kern County Region.**

**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, operational efficiency 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.**

Five small water systems in the Weldon area have Uranium & Nitrate contaminated wells and/or lack a back-up water supply. The contamination of area water wells and the lack of an adequate water supply pose a serious health threat to residents of these disadvantaged communities (MHI \$35,431). Many communities have high water rates and are faced with increasing rates to treat their water for Uranium &/or Nitrate and hire adequately licensed operators. Development of a regional water supply will provide clean drinking water, help lower operational costs, provide a backup water supply and much needed licensed operators.

Currently, the project has completed 90% of the plans and specs and the CEQA is 95% completed. A new district is being formed through LAFCo. The application should be submitted no later than April 30, 2019.

One major problem that the project faces is the expiration of a land purchase agreement for one of the well sites. The purchase agreement expires 06-05-2020 and we estimate that funds to purchase the land will not be granted until 2022. We are asking for \$345,550 dollars to purchase the land to secure the property and to build the production well. If the land acquisition and well development does not happen, the area's water systems will not have a source of clean drinking water. This portion of the greater project will play a significant part in getting clean water to this SDAC.

Funding to complete the rest of the project will, most likely, come from Prop.1, SWRCB SRF, Prop. 68, SB 200 The Safe and Affordable Drinking Water fund, and USDA.

### **Part 3. 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. It is recognized that much of the requested information may not be available for projects that are at a conceptual level of project development. We appreciate and need your ideas.

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.

Currently the, greater, proposed project is in jeopardy of losing a wellsite and we are asking Kern County IRWMP for funds to purchase the land where the wellsite will be located and to construct the production well that will be located on that land. The project has until 06/05/2020 to purchase the wellsite, if we do not purchase and construct the well, the Weldon community will lose its clean source of drinking water. The next two paragraphs outline the greater regional water project.

A new public district will be formed to own and operate the Weldon Regional Water System. The project will include the drilling, construction, and equipping of two new municipal water wells. Both wells will be equipped with a chemical feed pump for chlorination of the raw groundwater in order to maintain a free chlorine residual of  $\pm 0.5$  ppm in the water system. Furthermore, the well equipping piping will be designed to facilitate the addition of a water treatment system for the removal of iron and manganese from the raw groundwater should treatment be necessary in order to meet the secondary MCL standards.

This alternative also includes the construction of  $\pm 34,675$  LF of 12" C900 PVC piping to convey water from the two new wells to the two 750,000 gallon storage tanks and six existing water systems. In addition, approximately 26,525 LF of 6" C900 PVC piping will be installed to replace the aging infrastructure of existing water systems that are more than 30 years old including the piping, valving, and appurtenances for the Long Canyon Water Company, Rainbird Mutual Water Company, and the Bella Vista Mutual Water Company water systems. This alternative utilizes Tradewinds Water Association's existing water distribution system with the exception of the existing storage tanks and booster station. These will not be incorporated as part of the new regional water system. This alternative includes the construction of two 750,000 gallon welded steel AWWA D100 water storage tanks and a booster station to pump water into the Bella Vista MWC system. This project is being proposed so that the six existing systems can disconnect the existing wells that have water quality violations from their water systems.

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

•	South Fork of the Kern River
•	Lake Isabella
•	Tulare Lake Groundwater Basin

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

•	Municipal Service Review
•	Weldon Engineering Reports
•	Feasibility Study
Is the proposed project an element or phase of a regional or larger program?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, please identify the program	<u>The Weldon Regional Water Project</u>
Design life of the Project	<u>70 Years</u>
Proposed Construction/Implementation Start Date:	<u>2020</u>
Proposed Construction/Implementation Completion Date	<u>2025</u>
Ready for Construction Bid	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA

Item	Status (e.g., not initiated, in process, complete)	Date
Conceptual Plans	<u>Complete</u>	(02/28/2010)
Land Acquisition/ Easements	<u>Not initiated</u>	(mm/dd/yyyy)
Preliminary Plans	<u>Complete</u>	(02/28/2010)
CEQA/NEPA	<u>In Process</u>	(mm/dd/yyyy)
Permits	<u>Not initiated</u>	(01/01/2024)
Construction Drawings	<u>In Process</u>	(mm/dd/yyyy)

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

<p><b>Land Acquisition and Well Construction</b>  Land acquisition is ready to start. The Purchase agreement is in place and the Well plans and specs are complete and the CEQA for the Well site is also complete, but we are waiting for a couple cultural clearances, for the regional project, before the Draft NMD will be complete.</p> <p><b>Regional Project</b>  Once CEQA is complete, SHE will submit the LAFCo application and go through the special district formation. Once the district is formed, we will move forward and apply for available State and Federal funding.</p>
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## Part 4. Project Benefits

Please provide a 1-2 paragraph description of the benefit(s) that the project will address.

Information provided will be used in the assessment of project benefits.

By purchasing the needed land and constructing the wellsite, the Weldon community will have a viable, clean water supply that will provide clean water for 400 houses and 1,000 people. If the wellsite is not purchased and constructed, it is possible that the Weldon community will lose their access to clean drinking water.

Please describe the dominant existing land use type for the proposed project location.

Rural uses: Ranching, residential, vacant land, roads

Please describe the dominant existing land use type for areas upstream and downstream of the proposed project location

Upstream: Rural uses: Ranching, residential, vacant land, roads

Downstream: Rural uses: Ranching, residential, vacant land, roads

Does the project address any known environmental justice issues?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Is the project located within or adjacent to a disadvantaged community?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Does the project include disadvantaged community participation?

Yes  No  Not Sure

If yes, please identify the group or organization: Weldon DAC water systems: Rainbird Valley Mutual Water Company, Tradewinds Water Association, Long Canyon Water Company, & Bella Vista Mutual Water Company. Self-Help Enterprises is working with these DACs to develop the regional water project.

**Please provide the following project benefit information for all applicable components of the proposed project. Benefit categories include things such as water quality / flood management, water supply, and resource stewardship. PLEASE ATTEMPT TO SUPPLY ALL INFORMATION RELEVANT TO YOUR PROJECT. THIS INFORMATION WILL BE USED TO ANALYZE AND ASSESS PROJECT FOR FUTURE FUNDING.**

**WATER QUALITY BENEFITS / FLOOD MANAGEMENT BENEFITS**

<b>Water Quality Benefit Information</b>	
Treatment technologies* <b>*If used</b>	Chlorination and treatment for the removal of iron and manganese, if necessary.
Design operational treatment capacity (million gallons/day)	Estimated 0.2 MGD
Targeted Contaminants (Check all that apply):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chloride <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nitrogen Compounds <input type="checkbox"/> Coliform Bacteria <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): <u>Uranium</u>	
<b>Flood Management Benefit Information</b>	
Maximum volume of temporary storage of storm runoff (acre-feet)	_____
Maximum increased conveyance capacity (cubic feet/second)	_____
Estimated area benefiting from flood damage reduction (acres)	_____
Estimated level of flood protection resulting from project implementation	_____
Estimated annual value of flood damage reduction provided by project (\$/year)	_____
Acreage required for project implementation	_____

**WATER SUPPLY BENEFITS**

**Project information provided will help to quantify water supply benefits from enhanced local water supply or reduced potable water demand.**

Enhanced Water Supply or Demand Reduction Benefit Information			
<b>Source of Increased Supply or Demand Reduction</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater treatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Increased surface water storage	
<input type="checkbox"/> Recycled water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation/ water use efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean desalination	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): _____		
Type of enhanced supply or demand reduction: <u>Future alternate clean water wells and/or treatment facilities.</u>			
Annual Yield of Supply (acre-feet): <u>60</u> (Future yield)			
<b>Availability by Water-Year Type (acre-feet per year):</b>			
Average Year	<u>60</u>		
Dry Year	<u>60</u>		
Wet Year	<u>60</u>		
<b>Availability by Season (check all that apply):</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Summer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Winter
<b>Does the project have the potential to displace demands on the Bay/Delta/Estuary?</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure	



**For projects that include detention and groundwater recharge, please complete the following: N/A**

How many acres of land drain into this detention basin? (acres)	_____
Detention Basin area (acres)	_____
Detention basin max. operational depth (ft.)	_____
% of basin covered by wetlands	_____
Soil type	_____
If other than infiltration, identify method (e.g., injection) and recharge (acre-feet/year)	_____
Estimated basin annual inflow (acre-feet/year)	_____
Estimated basin annual outflow (acre-feet/year)	_____

**RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP BENEFITS**

**Project information provided will help to quantify the benefits associated with projects related to resource stewardship and land management.**

Non-treatment wetland area (acres)	_____
Treatment wetland area (acres)	_____
Riparian habitat area (acres)	_____
Non-developed open space area (acres)	_____
Multiple use/ recreation area (acres) – additionally, select the type of multiple use / recreation and associated acres by type:	
Single Sport Athletics	_____
Multiple Sport Athletics Acres	_____
Other Recreation Acres	_____
Pedestrian Trail Acres	_____
Equestrian Trail Acres	_____
Other Passive Activity	_____
Other Acres (describe)	_____
Description	_____
Total Project area (acres)	_____

## **Part 5. Project Cost Estimate**

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

Please indicate the estimated costs of project implementation and associated funding source(s). These costs should include land purchase/easement, planning/design/engineering, construction/implementation, environmental compliance, administration, and contingency.

<b>Approximate Total Cost</b> <i>(If project costs are variable, please include lower and upper range estimates.)</i>	Estimated Total construction cost: \$350,550 Dollars
<b>Funding Source</b> <i>(If multiple sources, list each source and the percent or amount funded by each)</i>	IRWM-
<b>Funding Certainty &amp; Longevity</b>	
<b>Operations &amp; Maintenance Cost</b> <i>(per year)</i>	
<b>Operations &amp; Maintenance Funding Source(s)</b> <i>(i.e., annual budget, grant, etc. If multiple sources, list each source and the percent or amount funded by each.)</i>	<b>Water system users monthly bills</b>
<b>Operations &amp; Maintenance Funding Certainty</b> <i>(i.e., already included in organization's budget, contingent upon grant, etc.)</i>	<b>Contingent upon project construction</b>

## Part 6. Regional Objectives

Indicate below whether the project meets any of the Kern IRWMP regional objectives. Where necessary/appropriate, please provide a brief explanation as to how the Project meets the regional objective.

Kern IRWMP Objectives	Does the project meet the objective?		Comments/Explanation
	Yes	No	
<b>Increase Water Supply (WS)</b>			
1. Through cooperation and collaboration with other regions restore water supplies to levels that will mitigate for water lost from the region and eliminate overdraft		No	
2. Pursue and implement cost effective water use efficiency programs		No	
3. Increase water storage capacity in the region by increasing recharge acreage and expanding groundwater banking programs before all prime recharge land has been developed		No	
4. Integrate management of water banking facilities to maximize conjunctive use over the planning horizon		No	
5. Increase/augment water supplies to meet region demands	Yes		The wellsite purchase and construction will provide the needed clean water to the Weldon community
<b>Improve Operational Efficiency (OE)</b>			
1. Increase transfers and exchanges flexibility over the planning horizon	Yes		Clean water availability through new wells and treatment.
2. Create tools to re-regulate water supplies within the region, including storage, storm flows, and operational flows over the planning horizon	Yes		Creation of regional water supplier and supply/storage & distribution system for area water systems.
3. Increase distribution efficiencies and reduce energy usage over the planning horizon		No	
4. Increase the use of alternate energy sources (e.g. solar)		No	
5. Replace aging infrastructure to reduce system water losses, improve operational efficiencies, and reduce service interruptions	Yes		New and clean water would be through new wells and treatment to replace and/or supplement existing old and or contaminated water supplies.
6. Increase the use of recycled water for direct reuse within the Kern Region		No	
7. Optimize local management of water resources to improve water supply reliability over the planning horizon		No	The future regional project will create a locally owned and operated regional water

		supply that will improve individual water systems' supply
8. Increase pool of qualified candidates to operate water and wastewater systems	No	The future Regional project will create the ability to hire or contract with certified operators for System O&M.
<b>Improve Water Quality (WQ)</b>		
1. Monitor and/or manage headwaters/areas of origin, natural streams, and recharge areas to prevent or mitigate contamination	No	
2. Identify and preserve prime recharge areas in the Kern fan area and other areas	No	
3. Improve water quality for disadvantaged communities and the watershed over the planning horizon	Yes	The Project would directly benefit four DAC water systems.
4. Continue to provide drinking water that meets or exceeds water quality standards; and support efforts to attain appropriate standards throughout the planning horizon	Yes	The production well will meet all water quality standards and once the regional project is complete it will provide water to a DAC
5. Maximize the use of lesser quality water for appropriate uses (landscaping, certain ag crops, "aesthetic" projects) throughout the planning horizon	No	
6. Coordinate and enhance aquatic pest control efforts from this point forward	No	
<b>Promote Land Use Planning and Resource Stewardship (LU)</b>		
1. Promote stewardship of the Kern River by applying appropriate measures in various reaches of the river from this point forward	No	
2. Encourage the removal of non-native invasive plant species that affect water quality, reliability, and operations	No	
3. Identify and promote the regeneration and restoration of native riparian habitat	No	
4. Coordinate agricultural and urban water suppliers to more effectively address land use planning issues from this point forward	Yes	Work with agricultural owners of local water rights to coordinate regional use.
5. Improve the linkage between land use planning and water supply in the region throughout the planning horizon	Yes	Work with agricultural owners of local water rights to coordinate regional use.
6. Increase educational opportunities to improve public awareness of water supply, conservation, and water quality issues throughout the planning horizon	Yes	Water project development will require local systems and users to understand local water contamination, metered rates, costs, operations. The Project will also hold community meetings to review Project costs and alternatives and seek user & system input on rates and project development.

7. Improve and coordinate integrated land use planning to support stewardship of environmental resources, such as the Kern River and Kern Fan, and integrate with habitat conservation plans and other ongoing planning efforts from this point forward	No	
8. Preserve and improve ecosystem/watershed health throughout the planning horizon	No	
<b>Improve Regional Flood Management (FM)</b>		
1. Improve regional flood management by addressing preparedness, response, and post flood actions throughout the planning horizon	No	
2. Reduce the effects of poor quality runoff throughout the planning horizon	No	
3. Identify and promote innovative flood management projects to protect vulnerable areas	No	
4. Plan new developments to minimize flood impacts from this point forward	No	