



# Watershed Planning Presentation

PRESENTED BY:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS  
SCW WATERSHED PLANNING TEAM

SCORING COMMITTEE  
WATERSHED PLANNING WORKSHOP

AUGUST 26, 2024





# WHAT WE'RE COVERING IN TODAY'S WORKSHOP:

- Introduction to Watershed Planning and our Approach
- Role of SC in Watershed Planning
- Facilitated Exercises on SCW Program Goals & Definitional Needs



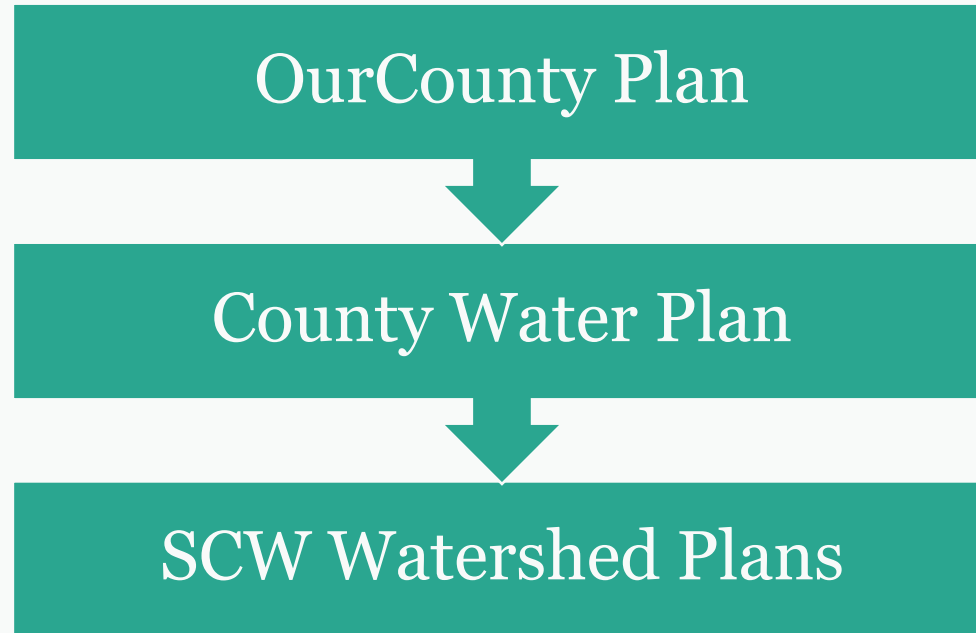
# WATERSHED PLANNING APPROACH

SCWP Watershed Planning efforts have been initiated to facilitate **regional and watershed-based planning** that identifies **opportunity areas** and refines **Population Indicators** (i.e., targets) that will support strategic investments.

This effort incorporates input to date from the Regional Oversight Committee, Board Motions, other Countywide planning initiatives, and other interested parties' work.



# WATERSHED PLANNING APPROACH: ALIGNMENT WITH COUNTY INITIATIVES



## Common Terms

Performance Measure (PM)  $\approx$  Metric  
Population Indicator (PI)  $\approx$  Target



# WATERSHED PLANNING APPROACH: PM & PI EXAMPLE

## Example Scenario

### Performance Measure (PM) $\approx$ Metric

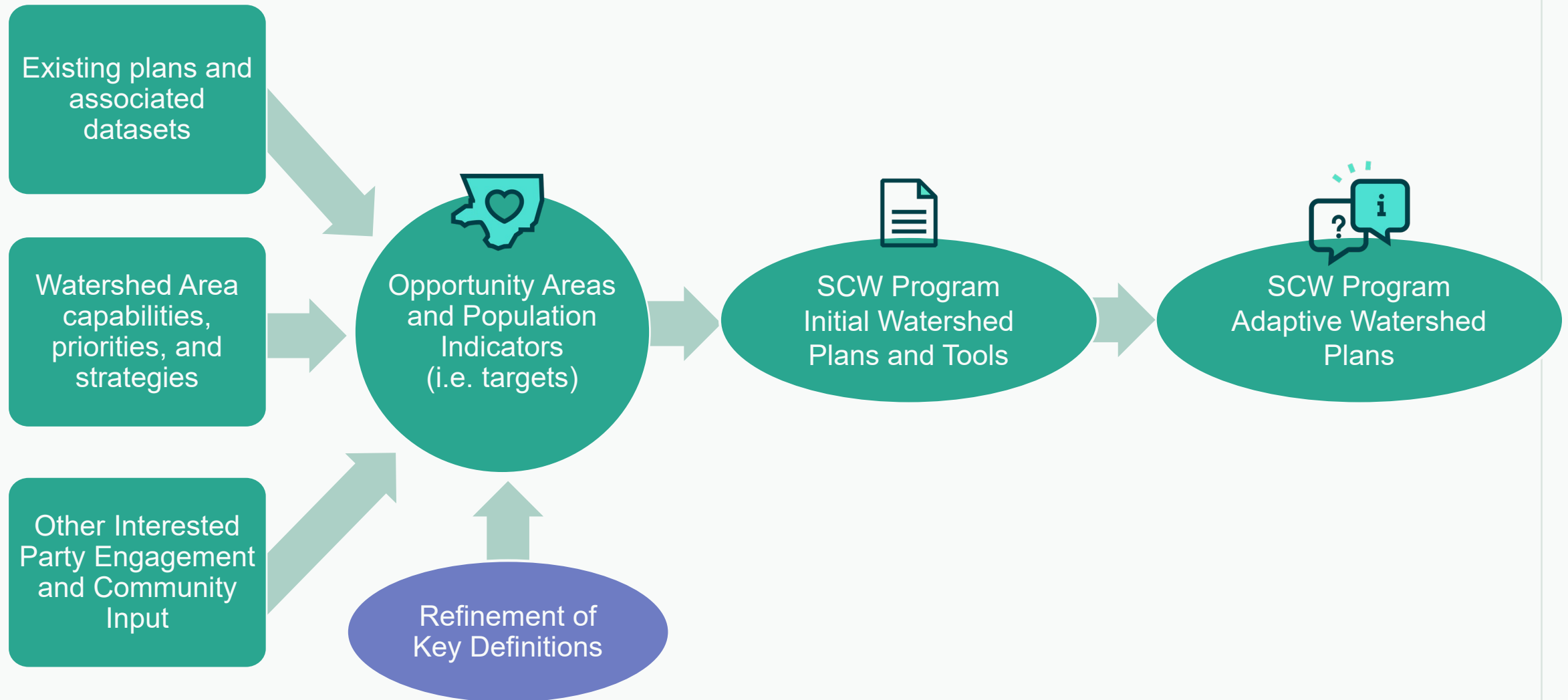
- Net acres of park created, enhanced, restored

### Population Indicator (PI) $\approx$ Target

- 10 acres of park created, enhanced, restored by 2045



# WATERSHED PLANNING APPROACH



# WATERSHED PLANNING MILESTONES AND OUTPUTS



## Initial Watershed Plan Framework

**November 2024**

- Data analysis and compilation leveraging completed work
- Gap analysis
- Initial results of engagement/community strengths and needs assessment



## Initial Watershed Plans for all nine Watershed Areas

**May 2025**

- Project opportunity areas (aligned with Watershed-specific priorities)
- Population Indicators (i.e., targets) for nine Watershed Areas
- Planning Tools



## Adaptive Watershed Plans (Future Scope of Work)

**2026**

- Deeper dive into data and adaptive management
- Additional interested party engagement
- Update Planning Tools (annually)
- Update Planning Document every 5 years

# ROLE OF SCORING COMMITTEE IN WATERSHED PLANNING

Technical expertise to inform the development/refinement of:



- Key definitions/guidance for applicants and the SC members when evaluating Project benefits as they relate to the scoring criteria.
- Population Indicators (i.e. targets) to track progress toward achieving SCW Program Goals, which may inform future revisions to scoring criteria.



# WHERE WE ARE NOW: PERFORMANCE MEASURES & POPULATION INDICATORS

## MMS

- Developed recommendations for program-wide and project-level metrics (PMs), methods, and monitoring criteria
- Refer to MMS Info Session on July 25 for more information

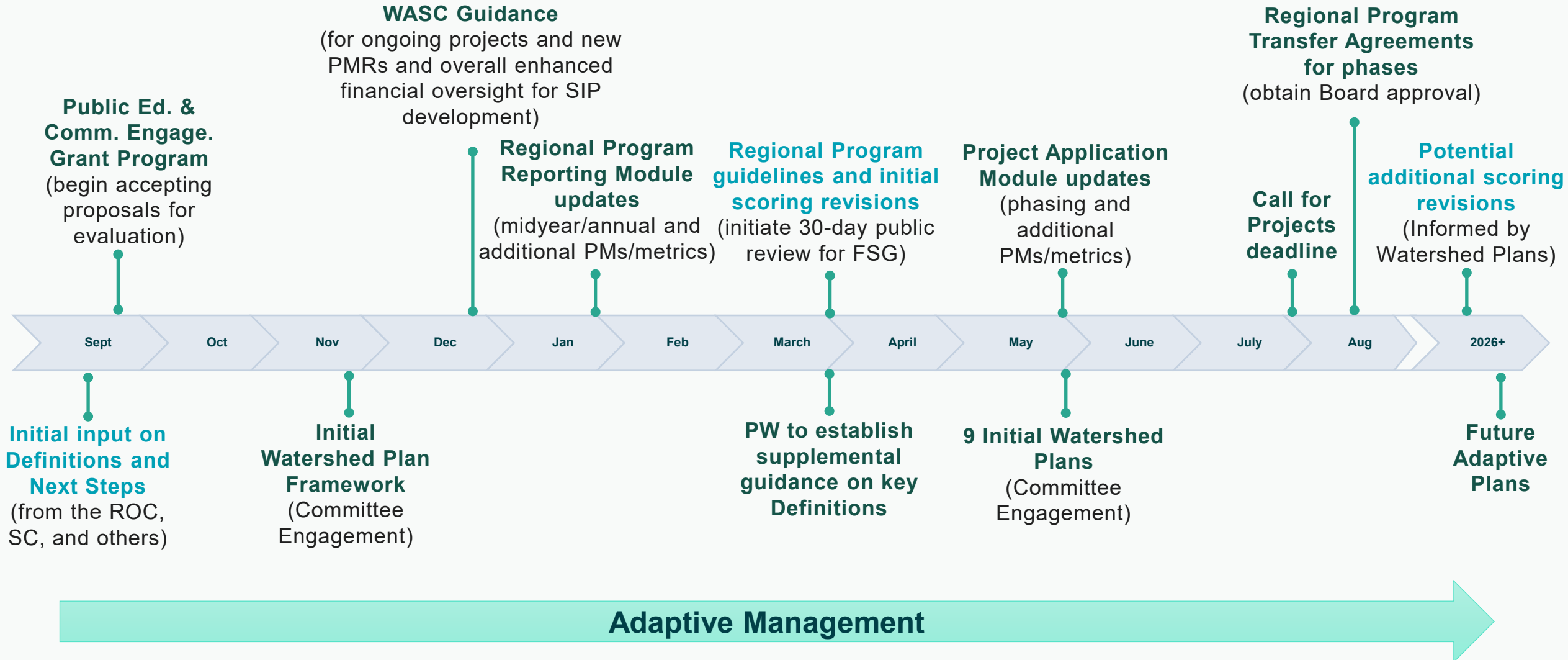
## PMs

- Featured PMs discussed at recent ROC meetings
- At least one PM for each of the 14 SCWP Goals to be incorporated into applications and reporting

## PIs

- Watershed Planning will establish Regional and Watershed Area PIs (targets), which build upon the PMs
- ROC, SC, and other stakeholder input to inform key definitions as they relate to the PIs

# TENTATIVE SCWP ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT TIMELINE



## 14 SCW Program Goals

Encourage **innovation** and adoption of new technologies and practices

Provide a **spectrum of project sizes** from neighborhood to regional scales

Promote **green jobs** and career pathways

Implement an **iterative planning and evaluation process** to ensure adaptive management

Improve **water quality** and contribute to attainment of water-quality requirements

Provide **Regional Program infrastructure funds** benefitting each Municipality in proportion to the funds generated within their jurisdiction, **after accounting for allocation of the one hundred and ten (110%) return to DACs**, to the extent feasible

Provide **DAC Benefits**, including Regional Program infrastructure investments, that are **not less than one hundred and ten percent (110%)** of the ratio of the DAC population to the total population in each Watershed Area

Ensure **ongoing operations and maintenance** for Projects

**Leverage other funding** sources to maximize SCW Program Goals

**Improve public health** by preventing and cleaning up contaminated water, increasing access to open space, providing additional recreational opportunities, and helping communities mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change through activities such as increasing shade and green space

Invest in infrastructure that provides **multiple benefits**

Prioritize Nature-Based Solutions

Invest in independent **scientific research**

Increase drought preparedness by **capturing more Stormwater** and/or Urban Runoff to store, clean, reuse, and/or recharge groundwater basins

# Key Definitions



- Wet vs. Dry Performance Measures
- Local water supply
- Impermeable Area Removal
- Leverage Funding



## Key Definitions: Water Quality: Performance Measures for Dry vs. Wet Weather Projects

<i>Need</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Current</i>
Explore Performance Measure options for dry weather projects and areas where dry weather objectives dominate; define how average annual load reduction Performance Measures apply to Regional Program dry weather project scoring	Feasibility Study Guidelines (3.1, Exhibit A)	"only Projects designed for 0.25-inch rain events or below may utilize the dry weather scoring section"

## Key Definitions: Water Quality: Performance Measures for Dry vs. Wet Weather Projects

Discussion  
Question:

What ways can projects be asked to describe their intended WQ outcomes to better reflect dry vs wet weather projects?

## Key Definitions: Water Supply: Increase of locally available water supply

<i>Need</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Current</i>
Define what counts as an increase in locally available water supply, in the context of existing capture/conservation infrastructure (and maintenance thereof, such as sediment removal behind dams), recharge potential (all water infiltrated vs. infiltrated over confined / unconfined aquifers vs. geotechnical analysis to estimate deep percolation), environmental water, and future water reclamation/reuse programs	SCW Program Implementation Ordinance (Definitions, 16.03.00) Feasibility Study Guidelines 2022 Interim Guidance	Activities resulting in this benefit include, but are not limited to, the following: reuse and conservation practices, diversion of Stormwater or Urban Runoff to a sanitary sewer system for direct or indirect water recycling, increased groundwater replenishment or available yield, or offset of potable water use."

Key Definitions: Water Quality: Performance Measures for Dry vs. Wet Weather Projects

Discussion  
Question:

How can methods of  
quantifying project capacity to  
produce local water supply be  
strengthened?



## Key Definitions: Project Modality: Impervious Area Removal

<i>Need</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Current</i>
Benchmark and validate the range of percent impermeable area removed	SCW Program Implementation Ordinance 16.03(V), 2022 Interim Guidance Feasibility Study Guidelines Scoring Criteria	“An engineering estimate for how much impermeable area is removed after the construction of the project. Compares the impermeable area of the project work area before construction to after the project is completed.” “Impermeable areas should be calculated for the entire project work area (i.e., areas within active work limits).”

Key Definitions: Water Quality: Performance Measures for Dry vs. Wet Weather Projects

Discussion  
Question:

What are the trade-offs of  
using the Performance  
Measure of % area removed  
vs. the Performance Measure  
of # area removed?

## Key Definitions: Fiscal & Operational: Cost-effectiveness and leveraged funding

<i>Need</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Current</i>
Consider if leveraged funding should be included/excluded when computing cost-effectiveness Performance Measure	Feasibility Study Guidelines Section 2.0	The total lifecycle cost estimate used for computing cost-effectiveness criteria includes total project costs and does not exclude leveraged funding

## Key Definitions: Water Quality: Performance Measures for Dry vs. Wet Weather Projects

### Discussion Question:

What are the trade-offs of calculating cost-benefit and life-cycle costs against total budget vs. calculating against the SCW Program funding request?



# Thank you



## QUESTIONS?

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