

# WATER RESOURCES AND PLANNING MANAGER

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

*(Riverside, CA)*





## THE AUTHORITY

The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) is a five-member Joint Powers Authority (JPA) in Riverside, California, that was formed in 1968 “to develop and maintain regional plans, programs, and projects that will protect the Santa Ana River basin water resources to maximize beneficial uses within the watershed in an economically and environmentally responsible manner”. SAWPA’s five member agencies are: Eastern Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Orange County Water District, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, and Western Municipal Water District.

Historically, SAWPA has focused on issues such as water supply reliability, water quality improvement, recycled water, wastewater treatment, groundwater management, brine disposal, and integrated regional planning. More recently, SAWPA has prioritized issues such as climate resiliency, watershed resiliency, and environmental justice. To that end, SAWPA is currently pursuing multi-benefit projects aimed at enhancing stormwater capture, evaluating PFAS in water throughout the region, and increasing precipitation through cloud seeding. Ongoing SAWPA-led projects, programs, and initiatives include the Inland Empire Brine Line, the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) program, and integrated water resource management.

For more information, visit <https://sawpa.org/>

## THE POSITION

The key focus of SAWPA’s Water Resources and Planning Manager is to foster regional cooperation on complex water resources issues that can be addressed more effectively at the regional level than at the local level.

Reporting to SAWPA’s General Manager and collaborating closely with member agencies, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, and other partners and stakeholders, this person manages, oversees, directs, and supervises SAWPA’s water resources planning operations, activities, and functions, providing thoughtful leadership and making strategic policy recommendations on a variety of water resource issues including surface water, groundwater, stormwater, wastewater, recycled water, water use efficiency, habitat conservation, drought response, forest health, and climate resiliency. Areas of increasing interest include regional climate collaboratives, watershed resiliency, stormwater capture, and the inclusion of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities in SAWPA planning efforts and projects.

The Water Resources and Planning Manager oversees SAWPA’s OWOW program, manages SAWPA’s Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) activities, and supports SAWPA’s legislative advocacy efforts. In carrying out those duties, the incumbent chairs and facilitates several regional planning committees, coalitions, workgroups, roundtables, and task forces.

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In addition to the above, the Water Resources and Planning Manager oversees and administers loan and grant programs; researches and applies for funding assistance from various sources for major projects; negotiates the conditions and terms of funding agreements; leads long-range planning efforts; prepares policy recommendations for the General Manager to advance SAWPA's strategic plan and major initiatives; evaluates and proposes new business initiatives and opportunities; and develops and updates current plans to meet the region's future needs related to reliability, resiliency, and sustainability.

This at-will position is available due to the upcoming retirement of the current Water Resources and Planning Manager. To facilitate knowledge transfer, the recruitment for this position has been timed to provide a period of transition between the outgoing and incoming managers.

## THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

SAWPA is seeking an effective leader, skilled project manager, and collaborative individual with exceptional interpersonal skills to serve as its next Water Resources and Planning Manager. The best-qualified candidate is a self-starter who enjoys setting priorities and has a strong interest in addressing future challenges related to reliability and resiliency of the watershed. Moreover, they gain satisfaction from seeing the plans and programs they develop being successfully implemented. They are a big picture thinker who interacts with partners at the local, regional, state and federal levels to advance innovative approaches to water resource management. Finally, they are an optimist who believes positive change is possible through good planning, communication, and collaboration.

## QUALIFYING EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

SAWPA invites individuals from a wide variety of professional backgrounds to apply for this position. While experience with water resources planning, water systems, or watersheds may be advantageous, people with backgrounds in civil engineering, environmental engineering, hydrology, hydrogeology, sustainability, water resources planning, or related fields who exhibit the attributes of the ideal candidate will be considered. Requires a Bachelor's degree and at least 8 years of increasingly responsible professional experience, including 5 or more years of senior level project management experience. A Master's degree is desirable.

## COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The annual salary range for this position is \$178,121 - \$216,507. A comprehensive benefits package is also offered. It includes:

- Choice of Medical Plans for you, your spouse, and your dependents, the cost of which is paid by the agency up to predesignated limits:
  - Anthem Blue Cross (PPO and HMO)
  - Kaiser Permanente HMO
- Delta Dental Premier/DPO Plan and Vision Services Plan for you, your spouse, and your dependents
- Employee Assistance Program
- Life Insurance (2x annual salary), up to \$250,000
- Long Term Disability insurance – 66 2/3% of monthly salary
- State Disability Insurance

- CalPERS Retirement
  - Classic Members [2% @ 55] (7% contribution is paid by employee)
  - New Members [2% @ 62] (Employee shares 50% of normal cost; currently 7.25%)
- Car Allowance
- 11 Holidays per year (10 designated, 1 floating)
- Vacation ranging from 12-22 days dependent upon years employed
- Sick leave 108 hours per year
- Management Leave 45 hours per calendar year
- Alternate work schedule

## HOW TO APPLY

**Apply on-line** at [www.alliancerc.com](http://www.alliancerc.com) by **August 1, 2022**. For questions and inquiries, please contact Cindy Krebs at (562) 901-0769 x336 or [ckrebs@alliancerc.com](mailto:ckrebs@alliancerc.com).

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