



MEMORANDUM

TO: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Joe McGahan, Regional Drainage/Westside Watershed Coalition Coordinator

DATE: September 17, 2020

RE: Activity Agreements – Staff Report for August 2020

This memorandum serves as the Staff Report for August 2020 regarding specified¹ Water Authority activities not separately addressed on the Board meeting agenda.

1. Integrated Regional Water Management Activity Summary

San Joaquin River Funding Area (SJRF)

The grant agreement amendment for the SJRF disadvantaged community involvement program (DACIP) has been finalized with the Department of Water Resources (DWR). This grant agreement amendment incorporates funding for Phase 2 of the DACIP, which is focused on projects for technical assistance and capacity building for the SJRF's disadvantaged communities. SLDMWA staff are identifying an eligible project for DACIP funding within the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Region and SJRF.

SLDMWA staff, local project sponsors, and the Woodard & Curran project team provided deliverables to DWR as part of the confirmation process for the SJRF's \$3,427,791 awarded funding through the Proposition 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant. DWR developed a single draft grant agreement for the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Region's Proposition 1 projects included in both the SJRF and TKFA. SLDMWA staff are coordinating with local project sponsors and consultant teams to finalize components of this grant agreement, including project schedules, budget, and work plan details.

Tulare-Kern Funding Area (TKFA)

¹ For the sake of completeness, this includes those Activity Agreements that have been approved by the Board of Directors, but not yet signed by all interested members and/or participants (i.e., the Los Vaqueros Expansion Project Activity Agreement, the Exchange Contractors 2019-2023 Transfer Program Activity Agreement, and the Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Activity Agreement).

SLDMWA staff are coordinating with the City of Huron representatives to finalize grant administration support and to review the draft grant agreement prepared by DWR for the SJRFA and TKFA projects supported through Proposition 1 funding.

General Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)

The Westside-San Joaquin IRWMP and Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP) have been updated for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). These final documents are available online via the SLDMWA website.

2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Activity (SGMA) Activity Summary

Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions

Following the release of a request for proposals for the Northern and Central Management Committees' well census and inventory efforts, the Finance and Technical Working Group convened to review proposal information and make a recommendation to the Management Committees. Representatives from the Management Committees approved final negotiations and contract execution for a proposal received from a Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group and Kenneth D. Schmidt and Associates team. This project will be supported in part by funding through the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) grant. The Finance and Technical Working Group will confirm final negotiations this month.

General SGMA Activities

The Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee is collaborating on the Subbasin's Proposition 68 subsidence characterization study. SLDMWA staff and Coordination Committee representatives will work with USBR and DWR staff to discuss the Subbasin's approach to this subsidence project and ensure that applicable data and efforts are coordinated.

The Coordination Committee identified an upcoming grant funding opportunity through the Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator Program. A single application will be developed on behalf of the Subbasin to support Subbasin-wide coordination and ongoing GSP implementation efforts. The Subbasin GSAs will review draft application materials and finalize application components including letters of support from participating GSAs and cooperating agencies.

The Coordination Committee is also collaborating with Subbasin GSAs to ensure water quality data are collected and finalized for the DWR Monitoring Network Module (MNM) and the Subbasin data management system (DMS).

3. Drainage Activity Summary

Grassland Basin Drainage Management Steering Committee Activity Summary:

Continue work on Drainage Management Plan due in December 2020.

Prepare for and organize Board meeting for the GBD Steering Committee. Follow up on issues related to bankruptcy proceedings for non-compliant discharger. Coordinate and participate in calls regarding pending legal matters. Review and prepare invoice letters to admin staff. Calculate membership dues. Develop wording for MOU with new members.

Organize meeting of local wetland managers regarding supplemental mitigation fund develop over the 2009 Use Agreement.

Coordinate work related to the agreement with Newman Land Company and State Fish and Wildlife for restoration of Mud Slough to conditions prior to the Grassland Bypass Project. Wetland impacts were calculated, maps prepared and mitigation requirements were determined. The hydrology report was modified with new operation description to offset mitigation requirements. Review permit application status with permit consultant. Review of CEQA documents for cultural portion of Mud Slough Restoration Project.

Provide field review with San Joaquin River Improvement Project (SJRIIP) manager. Update GIS maps for the SJRIIP and review source information.

Ongoing monitoring and data entry related to discharges from the Grassland Bypass Project continued. Work to administer the Prop 84 grant for the Long-Term Storm Water Plan and reuse area upgrades continued.

Activities also included management of the Third Party Group for the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition to implement the Irrigated Lands Program. Support was provided to farmers for completing their paperwork requirements.

San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority Activity Summary:

Follow up calls and emails were answered to assist farmers in completing their paperwork requirements. Manage field monitoring program. Review invoices from consultants and prepare letters to admin staff. Continue to update membership database. Participate in central valley groundwater monitoring collaborative conference call. Prepare for and attend San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority Zoom board meeting. Submit sediment report to the Regional Board. Develop FY 21 budget summary.

Management continued for the Prop 84 Real Time Management Program Grant for compliance with the San Joaquin River Salt and Boron TMDL.