



Official Memorandum

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To: SLDMWA Board of Directors and Alternates

From: Scott Petersen, Chief Strategic and Administrative Officer
Chris Linneman, Regional Drainage Coordinator
Orvil McKinnis, Westside Watershed Coalition Coordinator

Date: September 17, 2026

RE: Staff Report on Activity Agreements – August Update

Background

This memorandum serves as the Staff Report for August 2026 regarding specified¹ Water Authority activities not separately addressed on the Board meeting agenda.

Integrated Regional Water Management Activity (IRWM) Summary

The Roundtable of Regions met to determine potential paths forward for the IRWM Program in the future, given the limited amount of funding provided in Proposition 4 for IRWM Activities (\$100M), and has released a transition plan that may be of interest to member agencies².

Westside San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRMWP)

Self-Help Enterprises has prepared a draft Community Water Needs Assessment for disadvantaged communities (DACs) in the Westside San Joaquin IRWM Region, incorporating revisions from staff. The Assessment is being updated to identify and prioritize the most critical drinking water needs for DACs in the region, especially during drought years. The revised draft will be distributed to an IRWM Activity Agreement Member subcommittee for review and input prior to completion, which is anticipated by the end of the fiscal year.

QPR 23 and Invoice 28 were submitted in August. The revised Amendment 8 request was executed on June 24, 2026.

The CCID Project is officially closed out now, the remaining project on the grant is a Westlands project, targeting a November completion date due to some challenges with the original contractor.

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).

² Request from Authority staff.



Drainage Activity Summary

Grassland Basin Drainage Management Steering Committee Activity

The Grassland Bypass Channel gates have remained closed since February of 2024 despite substantial rain events in February and March of this year. Selenium concentrations in Mud Slough and the San Joaquin River remain below the water quality objective.

Grassland Basin Program Activities

- General administration: Review and approve consultant billing. Field review of drainage conditions and correspondence with SJRIP manager. Correspondence with Regional Board staff occurred as required. Water Authority Staff is coordinating with GBA staff and consultants to begin the transition of the GBD Steering Committee Activity Agreement to the GBA. In August, both the Authority and the Grassland Basin Authority (GBA) adopted resolutions to move forward with efforts to transition the Grassland Bypass Project, along with the associated orders and contracts from the Authority to the GBA.
- Compliance Monitoring: Monitoring in compliance with the 2019 revised WDRs and 2019 Use Agreement is a continuous and daily effort. Regular flow, water quality and toxicity monitoring are required at eight locations at a frequency that varies from monthly to daily.
- Grassland Drainage Area Coalition: Work continues to provide coverage for farmers within the Grassland Drainage Area for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. This process is nearly complete.
- Mud Slough: Staff is working with California Department of Fish and Wildlife to acknowledge the completion of the Mud Slough Restoration Project, per the 2010 Memorandum of Understanding.