



Official Memorandum

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To: SLDMWA Board of Directors and Alternates

From: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Chris Linneman, Regional Drainage Coordinator
Orvil McKinnis, Westside Watershed Coalition Coordinator

Date: May 14, 2026

RE: Staff Report on Activity Agreements – April 2026

Background

This memorandum serves as the Staff Report for April 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.

Quarterly Progress Report 22 and Invoice 26 are due to DWR by May 29th. Amendment 8 request was submitted to DWR on October 21st. On January 13th, a response regarding Amendment 8 was received from DWR which indicated they would hold off processing the amendment as it does not change the overall term of the agreement. On April 23rd, Westland requested a schedule extension for Project 5 due to financial and

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.



contractual issues through at least end of summer 2026. Woodard & Curran is currently working on revising Amendment 8 and will send materials to SLDMWA for consideration, prior to submitting the request to DWR.

Woodard & Curran’s contract with SLDMWA ended on February 28th. SLDMWA issued a contract amendment on March 13, 2026 extending the completion date through February 28, 2027 in order to complete all work through the grant agreement end date.

Drainage Activity Summary

Grassland Basin Drainage Management Steering Committee Activity

Despite the recent storm activity, the Grassland Bypass Channel gates have remained closed since February of 2024 despite substantial rain events in February and March of this year. Storm events at the end of December caused the Grassland Basin Authority to pump water into the Short-Term Storage Basins to prevent discharge through the Grassland Bypass Project, which continued until January 13. 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. The FY26/27 budget was adopted at the December meeting.
- 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.