



The Year in Review: 2017

June 2018

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation in Yolo County

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014 created a framework that allows groundwater to be sustainably managed at a local level throughout California. In response to SGMA, the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA) was formed in June 2017 after two years of planning, collaboration, and public outreach. The Board adopted a two-year budget beginning on July 1, 2017. The focus of this agency will be to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The YSGA is a collaborative membership of 24 local agencies representing both urban and rural stakeholders that will provide input for the development of the GSP.

Yolo County has a long history of groundwater management and monitoring that supports the sustainability of our groundwater resources. The Water Resources Information Database (WRID) and the Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program were both established as part of the Water Resources Association of Yolo County's project fund activities related to Foundational Actions of the Yolo County IRWMP. The Yolo

County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (YCFCWCD) has been instrumental in the leadership and management of both these programs. Other tools that will be utilized in the GSP's development include the Integrated Groundwater and Surface water Model (IGSM), Integrated Water Flow Model (IWFM), and Water Evaluation And Planning system (WEAP) surface and groundwater models. Additionally, data collected from the Yolo County Subsidence Monitoring Network for the past 15 years will supply important historical groundwater trends and information for determining sustainability for the region.

In April 2018, DWR announced the final grant awards for the Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program. The YCFCWCD was awarded, on behalf of the YSGA, a \$1 million grant for the development of the Yolo Subbasin GSP by January 1, 2022.

For more information about YSGA meetings and activities, please go to yologroundwater.org.

2017 Board Meeting Presentations and Topics

- Water Conditions Update, Tim O'Halloran, Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (November and March 2017)
- Independent Audit Report Fiscal Years Ending 6/30/17 and 6/30/16, Rick Johnston, Perry Bunch & Johnston, CPA (September 2017)
- Urban Water-Related Legislation Issues, John Woodling, Regional Water Authority (June 2017)
- Emergency Flood Response Updates from the Office of Emergency Services: State of California, Yolo County and the City of West Sacramento (March 2017)
- 2016 Yolo Subsidence Network Monitoring Event and Final Report: Jim Frame, Frame Surveying & Mapping (March 2017)
- Land Subsidence Study: Results of InSAR Analysis in Yolo County, Jesse Crews, Stanford University (March 2017)
- City of Winters Hexavalent Chromium 6 Compliance Update, John Donlevy, City Manager, City of Winters (January 2017)
- Assessing Perspectives on Land Subsidence in Yolo County: Baseline Survey Results, Esther Conrad, Stanford University (January 2017)
- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation in Yolo County Update, Tim O'Halloran (January, March, June, September, and November 2017)



Groundwater recharge in the YCFC&WCD canal system.

Davis, City of
Dunnigan Water District
Reclamation District 108
Reclamation District 2035
University of California, Davis
West Sacramento, City of
Winters, City of
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WRA Funded IRWMP Projects and Programs in 2017 *(For details www.yolowra.org/projects.html)*

The WRA contributed funding toward the following project priorities in FY2016-17:

- *Westside-Sacramento IRWMP Implementation (\$20,000)* - Regional match \$60,000 from Napa, Lake and Solano counties
- *City of Winters Hexavalent Chromium 6 Drinking Water Compliance Project (\$16,127)* - Local match \$108,873
- *Invasive Weed Removal & Management Huff's Corner (\$15,500)*, Cache Creek Conservancy - Local match \$13,538
- *City of Winters Storm Water Management Planning (\$15,000)* - Local match \$12,000
- *Conduct Large Landscape Irrigation Audits (Pilot Program), Cities of Woodland, Davis & West Sacramento (\$12,000)* - Local match \$18,000
- *Cache Creek Invasive Weed Mapping & Prioritization, (\$10,000)*: Yolo County Resource Conservation District - Local match \$32,000
- *Salmon in the Bypass (\$5,000)*: Putah Creek Council - Local match \$34,000
- *Yolo Bypass Integrated Action (\$5,000)*: Yolo Basin Foundation - Local match \$5,000
- *Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program (\$89,000)*: Yolo County IRWMP Foundational Action managed by the YCFC&WCD

Financial Summary

July 2016 - June 2017 Income

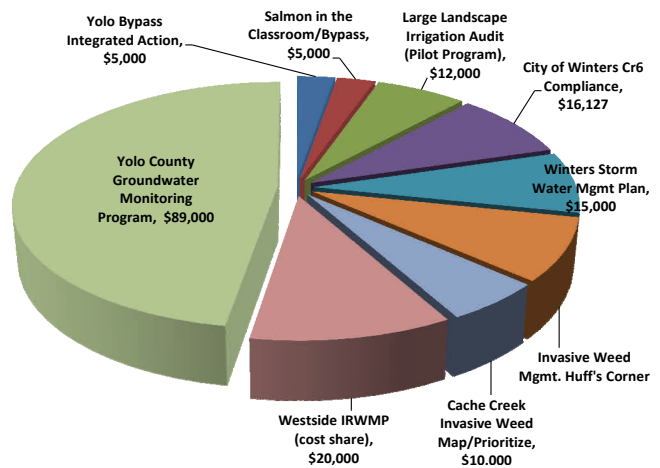
WRA Membership Dues: Baseline Budget

- Administrative Fund: \$85,153
- Project Fund: \$98,627

Special Projects Budget (Supplemental Income)

- Yolo County Groundwater Monitoring Program: \$89,000

July 2016 - June 2017 Budgeted Project Expenses



Grant/Loan Funding

(WRA Member Agencies, selected list)

Agency	Project	Funding Source	Amount	Status
City of Davis	Davis Manor Neighborhood Green Streets (with storm water component)	Urban Greening Grant Program (CA Natural Resources Agency)	\$1,415,207	Pending 2018
County of Yolo	Small Community Flood Risk Reduction Feasibility studies for Knights Landing, Clarksburg, and Yolo	CA Dept. of Water Resources	\$1.4 million	Awarded
Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YCFC&WCD)	Groundwater Sustainability Plan Preparation & Development	Sustainable Groundwater Program, CA Dept. of Water Resources	\$1 million	Awarded
American Rivers	Restoration Planning at River Garden Farms: Improving aquatic habitat resiliency on working lands along the Sacramento River	Delta Conservancy, Proposition 1	\$661,189	Conditional award approval pending
Yolo County Resource Conservation District	Putah-Cache Arundo Eradication Program	Wildlife Conservation Board, CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	\$373,616 (2-yr planning grant)	Awarded 2018
City of Davis	Russell Blvd. Green Streets Demonstration Project	Urban Rivers Grant Program (CA Natural Resources Agency)	\$300,283	Awarded 2017
Cache Creek Conservancy	Cache Creek Nature Preserve Habitat Expansion and Improvement	North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant, U.S. Fish & Wildlife	\$90,891	Awarded

IRWMP Integrated Projects & Ongoing Member Agency Activities

IMPLEMENTATION of the SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA)

The Water Resources Association of Yolo County (WRA) Board of Directors received quarterly presentations and updates about the SGMA implementation process in 2017 and 2018. The Yolo County Farm Bureau and the WRA held a second set of public outreach meetings in February 2017 to inform the public and provide an opportunity for their questions to be answered about the formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency in Yolo County. The GSA was formed as a Joint Power Authority, named the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA), at the inaugural Board of Directors' meeting on June 19, 2017. The Board members appointed Tim O'Halloran as the Executive Officer and approved the formation of a technical working group subcommittee comprised of representatives from its 24 agencies.

The development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) will be a primary task of the YSGA. As part of the GSP development process, water balances will be accomplished using the Water Evaluation and Planning System (WEAP) model with the assistance of the Stockholm Environment Institute and state grant funding. For more information about SGMA activities in Yolo County go to: <https://yologroundwater.org/>.

WESTSIDE-SACRAMENTO IRWMP

The Westside-Sacramento Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Coordinating Committee (CC) is in the process of updating their IRWMP Plan to Proposition 1 DWR 2016 IRWMP Plan standards. The CC is also updating information about all of the projects contained in the Plan. The adoption of the updated Westside Plan is anticipated in August 2018. The next round of Proposition 1 IRWMP Plan implementation grant applications have an expected deadline starting in January 2019.

The Westside IRWMP group is continuing work with the Brownfields Assessment Program, which evaluates mine-scarred lands within the Cache and Putah Creek watersheds to create an area-wide plan for potential mercury contamination cleanup (U.S. EPA \$450,000 3-year grant). Stephen McCord, McCord Environmental, is managing the project that will also create an interactive database of mine sites in the two watersheds. www.westsideirwmbrownfields.org.

The Westside is also continuing its efforts for disadvantaged community involvement (DAC) under a State Department of Water Resources grant program that

brings IRWMP regions together to talk about their unique and regional DAC needs. This non-competitive grant funding seeks to make sure DACs are able to stay involved in and benefit from IRWMP activities throughout the state. <http://www.westsideirwm.com/>

STORM WATER RESOURCE PLAN (SWRP) for YOLO COUNTY: The Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (YCFC&WCD) submitted a Proposition 1 grant application to the State Water Resources Control Board on behalf of the WRA in March 2016 and was awarded \$325,000 with a total project cost of about \$690,000. The YCFC&WCD is the grant administrator. A Storm Water Resource Management Plan has been developed and the final draft plan was adopted by the Westside-Sacramento IRWMP Coordinating Committee in May 2018. This Plan is a requirement in order to access storm water implementation funding anticipated in late 2018/early 2019. The SWRP will inform future water management decisions and promote effective conjunctive use as well as alleviate flooding, groundwater, and water quality issues through storm water management throughout Yolo County. The final Yolo County SWRP will be incorporated into the Westside-Sacramento IRWMP Plan. The final draft SWRP: www.yolowra.org/projects_swrp.html.

WRA PROJECT FUNDING SPOTLIGHT 2016-17

Multi-Family Residential (MFR) Landscape Irrigation Audits (Pilot Program): The cities of Woodland, Davis, and West Sacramento collaboratively designed this pilot program to contact MFR properties that are difficult to reach through traditional outreach methods. The program offered free irrigation audits and gave the cities an opportunity to gauge the properties' interest in water conservation. The water audits, conducted in 2017, provided information to the property managers on how they could improve their irrigation methods resulting in a cost savings. A consultant was chosen to assist with the property selection process for each city. Eight large landscape audits were conducted: 3 in West Sacramento, 3 in Woodland and 2 in Davis. It was concluded that immediate and significant water savings are possible through simple irrigation schedule adjustments and other low or no cost amendments. These changes prevent water waste, increase efficiency and save money for the MFR properties. Final project report can be read here: <http://www.yolowra.org/projects.html>.

Cache Creek Invasive Weed Mapping & Prioritization: The Yolo County Resource Conservation District in collaboration with the Cache Creek (cont. on page 4)



WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

O F Y O L O C O U N T Y

Clouds reflecting in lower Cache Creek after a recent rain

(Photo courtesy of Cache Creek Conservancy)



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IRWMP Integrated Projects (continued from page 3)

Conservancy (CCC) identified and prioritized locations of infestations of primarily tamarisk, arundo, raven-nagras and perennial pepperweed. This project supports the CCC's 2016 mapping of key invasive weeds within the Cache Creek Resources Management Plan Area (CCRMP) and continues additional mapping work upstream, outside the CCRMP area and in the middle reach of Cache Creek. Mapping infestation locations and acreages is an important precursor to planning and determining costs for future control measures. This effort helps protect the areas where aggressive, invasive weeds have been controlled already. Final report: <http://www.yolowra.org/projects.html>

For other WRA funded project summaries go to: www.yolowra.org/projects

Board Profile and Meeting Information

The WRA is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of representatives appointed by each member agency. The WRA Technical Committee is composed of senior staff from each of the participating agencies. The WRA Executive Committee is comprised of the Association Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Technical Committee Chair and handles administrative and oversight functions for the association.

The WRA Board of Directors meet a minimum of five times per year on a Monday at 3 p.m. in Woodland. The Technical and Executive Committees meet on a monthly basis. Additional meetings of the Board and Committees are arranged on an as-needed basis depending on issues that require timely attention.

The public is invited to attend and participate at all WRA meetings. Meeting announcements and minutes are available on our website at www.yolowra.org.

WRA Board of Directors & Officers 2017 and 2018

- ◆ Beverly Sandeen, City of West Sacramento, Chair
- ◆ Roger Cornwell, Reclamation District 108, Vice-Chair
- ◆ Brett Lee, City of Davis
- ◆ Jesse Loren, City of Winters
- ◆ Skip Davies, City of Woodland
- ◆ Cynthia Peterson, Dunnigan Water District
- ◆ Robert Thomas, Reclamation District 2035
- ◆ Camille Kirk, University of California Davis
- ◆ Duane Chamberlain, County of Yolo
- ◆ Tom Barth, Yolo County Flood Control & WCD
- ◆ Tim O'Halloran, YCFC&WCD, Treasurer
- ◆ Elisa Sabatini, Yolo County, Technical Comm. Chair
- ◆ Donna Gentile, Administrative Coordinator

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