



WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF YOLO COUNTY

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Date: June 16, 2014
To: WRA Board and Alternates
From: WRA Technical Committee (TC)
Subject: **Technical Committee Report**
FY14-15 WRA PROJECT FUND RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations

Approve the Project Fund recommendations and incorporate into the WRA FY14-15 final budget.

Background

The WRA TC meets monthly to implement Board priorities with a focus on making progress on actions contained in the 2007 IRWMP and developing strategies to pursue and secure outside funding opportunities. The TC also provides annual recommendations to the Board on the proposed budget allocations for the non-administrative portion of the WRA budget (a.k.a Project Fund).

FY14-15 WRA Budget - Project Fund Allocation Recommendations

Table 1 below lists the projects the TC has reviewed and recommended for WRA funding for inclusion in the FY14-15 WRA budget. All of the projects are related to actions contained in the Yolo County IRWMP. Historically the WRA Project Fund has been leveraged with other funding sources to facilitate implementation of a wide range of WRA priority actions.

TABLE 1
Recommended FY14-15 WRA Project Fund Allocations

Project Name	WRA Funding	Local Match	Total Project Costs
Westside IRWMP Implementation	\$ 20,000	Solano County, Napa County, Lake County	\$ 80,000
City of Winters Storm Water Management Planning	\$15,000	City of Winters	\$29,500
The Year of Groundwater	\$70,000	Yolo County \$25,000, RD2035 \$16,000	\$131,580
Subtotal Project Fund for FY14-15	\$105,000		\$241,080
FY13-14 Project Fund extensions into FY14-15 utilizing carryover funds			
Yolo Bypass Integrated Action- Yolo Bypass Working Group	\$ 10,000	Yolo Basin Foundation	\$ 15,000
Mercury TMDL Impacts & Implementation Assessment	\$4,400	In-kind, WRA Hg subcommittee agencies	\$4,400
TOTAL	\$119,400		\$260,480

The baseline budget for FY14-15 project Fund is anticipated to be \$98,513 based on 57% of the total WRA membership contributions received. There will be \$21,294 from FY2013-14 carried over for use in FY2014-15 as noted in Attachment A.

Recent TC Highlights:

- Collaborated project identification and selection with Westside IRWMP for Emergency Drought Grant Solicitation application;
- Received regular updates on FloodProtect Planning effort for Lower Sacramento North Delta Regional Flood Management Plan;
- Received status report on drought and water conditions throughout the county and received update from Yolo County Office of Emergency Services;
- Continued participation in water legislation process (including 2014 Water Bond) and assessed impacts for WRA member agencies and stakeholders (special thanks to NCWA, YCFWCWCD and Yolo County);
- Monitored and discussed groundwater management legislation and received updates on statewide regional activities, such as the State Water Resources Control Board Groundwater concept paper;
- Continued compliance with the legislated California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Program (CASGEM). WRA is the Program's approved Yolo County Monitoring Entity;
- Monitored status of various State and Federal project funding sources and recommend pursuit of opportunities that would benefit WRA members;
- Received updates from Yolo County and Yolo Basin Foundation on studies being conducted to evaluate impacts to Yolo Bypass agriculture of proposed Delta plans;
- Received progress report on Mercury TMDL Impacts and Implementation Assessment Project;
- Stayed engaged on the Delta, Bay-Delta Conservation Plan, and related processes.
- Received updates on various member agency projects;
- Received updates on Yolo County IRWMP Foundational Actions

Attachments:

- A) FY14-15 WRA Project Fund Budget, TC Final Recommendations, 6-5-14
- B) FY14-15 Matrix WRA Project Fund Requests, 6-5-14

WRA Project Fund Request - Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Due no later than April 30, 2014

TC will review requests at their May 1, 2014 meeting

Email completed form: info@yolowra.org)

Available FY2014-15 Budget: \$98,500

Project Title: Westside IRWMP Implementation

Project Budget (WRA/Local = Total): \$20,000 / \$60,000 = \$80,000

Project Description: FY14-15 WRA contribution of \$20,000 for the Westside IRWMP Implementation MOU budget. The Westside Coordinating Committee will begin implementation of the adopted Westside IRWMP for the first year of operations. Subsequent budgets will be approved on an annual basis based on budget needs, implementation progress, and other factors.

Project Status (check all appropriate boxes):

- Action contained in Yolo County IRWMP
- Action contained in Westside IRWMP
- Concept/development stage
- Planning/feasibility
- Permitting
- Design
- Construction
- Operation

Project Benefits:

Foundational Action(s): Implement Westside IRWMP actions that encourage leveraging of member efforts to develop and expand available foundational watershed information including groundwater, surface water, and other resources.

Integrated Action(s): Develop, maintain and facilitate implementation of Westside IRWMP projects, including status, funding/financing strategy, key milestones, and completion.

Agencies/Entities Involved:

Lead Agency (Name): Westside Group Coordinating Committee

Other Agencies/Entities (Name): 5 MOU Signatories

Project Schedule: Beginning Date: 07/01/2014 Ending Date: 06/30/2015

Consultants Involved (Names): TBD

Submitted by (Name/Agency): Max Stevenson, Coordinating Committee Member

Submitted on: 04/30/14



April 22, 2014

Dear Water Resource Agency,

The City of Winters is pleased to submit the attached project proposal to the WRA. Winters was a founding member of the WRA and has continuously supported this key organization without hesitation for over 20 years. This project represents the first time that the City of Winters has sought funding under the WRA local Projects Fund and is encouraged that the storm water quality proposal enjoys the support of the Putah Creek Council, the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee, the Solano County Water Agency and the Yolo-Solano Storm Water Coordinating Committee.

This project will dramatically reduce the amount of solid waste entering Putah Creek from the City storm water system and make great strides in reducing chemical impacts to surface water quality. These improvements will benefit the City of Winters, the greater riparian corridor along lower Putah Creek, the City of Davis, the Yolo bypass and all downstream entities, up to and including San Francisco Bay and the northern Pacific Ocean by decreasing solid and chemical urban storm runoff. We believe this is a great use of local WRA funds and look forward to the support.

Sincerely,

Cecilia Curry-Aguiar
Mayor

John W. Donlevy, Jr.
City Manager

318 First Street
Winters, CA 95694
Phone.530.795.4910
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COUNCIL MEMBERS
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Nanci Mills
TREASURER
Michael Sebastian

CITY MANAGER
John W. Donlevy, Jr.

WRA Project Fund Request - Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Due on or before April 30, 2014

TC will review requests at their April 3, 2014 meeting

Email completed form to: info@yolowra.org

Available FY 2014-15 Baseline Budget: \$98,500

Project Title: City of Winters Storm Water Management Planning

Project Budget (WRA/Local = Total): \$ 17,500/ \$12,000* = \$29,500

*City of Winters staff time (in-kind match) estimated at least 80 hours over one year

Project Description: The City of Winters (City) plans to use WRA project funds to develop a comprehensive stormwater management plan in accordance with municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) requirements. The City is currently covered under a waiver from NPDES General Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for Storm Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Order No. 2013-0001-DWQ due, in part, to its small population size. However, the City has three major stormwater discharge points leading directly into Putah Creek.

These discharge points disgorge significant quantities of visible human detritus (trash) into the Creek during first flush seasonal events. In addition, there are unknown, but suspected water quality problems related to common urban runoff. These include but are not limited to petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, herbicides and pesticides. The City has no funding available to address the need for developing a storm water management plan. Using WRA project funds, the City will develop this plan and meet State requirements. A portion of the plan will focus on identifying potential pollution risks and developing a City data base to monitor the most potentially significant sources. Another portion of the plan will develop a comprehensive education and monitoring program to reduce runoff from fertilizer and herbicide use, and increase awareness of automobile washing and other activities that may adversely impact water quality.

It is hoped that WRA funding of this project will assist the City in future efforts to design and implement garbage traps to reduce future impacts to Putah Creek, the Sacramento River, San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean.

Project Status (check all appropriate boxes): (place cursor over appropriate box & double click left mouse button, select checked button)

- Action contained in Yolo County IRWMP
- Action contained in Westside IRWMP
- Concept/development stage
- Planning/feasibility
- Permitting
- Design
- Construction
- Operation

Project Benefits:

Foundational Action(s)

This project directly relates to Foundation Action **FA2 *Surface Water Monitoring*** and Foundation Action **FA7 *Aquatic Habitat and Opportunities Assessment Program*** presented in the 2007 Yolo IRWMP by developing a City-wide education and monitoring plan for managing and improving storm water quality. The Proposed project supports extensive work by cooperators such as Solano County Water Agency, Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee, Putah Creek Council, UC Davis and others working on Putah Creek habitat improvements by striving to improve discharges directly into Putah Creek.

West Side IRWMP

The project is consistent with Goals and Objective outlined in the West Side IRWMP, specifically Goal 2: Improve Education and Awareness, Goal 3, Improve Collective understanding and Goal 5, Improve Water-related Public Health. The project is not specifically called out in the IRWMP but is consistent with SCWA Source Water Protection Project #38 and the Rural Community Assistance Project #93.

Integrated Action(s)

This project relates directly or indirectly to at least three integrated actions outlined in the 2007 Yolo IRWMP.

Integrated Action IA6: Putah Creek Integrated Project, Prerequisite Task 5 *Investigate City of Winters Storm Water Drainage Issues,*

While this IRWMP task focuses on expanding storm drainage system investigations to keep pace with City growth, it is also imperative that this process include a comprehensive mapping of potential polluters and a plan to educate new and existing residents and businesses to the sensitivities of the Putah Creek ecosystem. This project would complete these mapping and public education components.

Integrated Action IA7: Yolo Bypass Integrated Project, “improvement in water quality,”

The proposed project is up stream of the Yolo Bypass and therefore, has the potential to significantly improve water quality by better managing urban runoff from the streets of Winters.

Integrated Action IA8: Yolo county Sloughs, canals, and Creeks Management Program

The opening sentence under this integrated action reads:

“An important aspect of this integrated program is the management of storm runoff to minimize impacts, while enhancing storm water quality and wildlife habitat in a manner that is compatible with agricultural practices.”

Specifically, prerequisite *Task 2 Update and Develop County-City Drainage Criteria* and *Task 7 Formulate and implement a comprehensive plan to address the management of storm water runoff from agricultural and urban land.*

The proposed project would improve water quality in Putah Creek which serves numerous agricultural properties downstream of Winters. The project will help develop drainage criteria (Task 2) and will formulate and implement a comprehensive plan to address the management of storm water runoff from urban land (Task 7).

The above summarizes how the proposed project will directly benefit at least three of the integrated actions identified in the 2007 Yolo IRWMP. Further, this project supports many of the goals and objectives identified in the West Side IRWMP.

Agencies/Entities Involved:

Lead Agency: City of Winters

Other Agencies/Entities:

- Putah Creek Council
- Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee
- Solano County Water Agency
- Yolo/Solano Storm Water Coordination Committee

Project Schedule: Beginning Date: 7/1/1014 Ending Date: 6/30/2015

Consultants Involved: BSK Associates, Inc., Kurt Balasek, Senior Hydrogeologist

Submitted by: Carol Scianna, City of Winters

Submitted on: 4/23/2014

WRA Project Fund Request - Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Due on or before April 30, 2014

TC will review requests at their April 3, 2014 meeting

Email completed form to: info@yolowra.org

Available FY2014-15 Baseline Budget: \$98,500

Project Title: Yolo Bypass Integrated Project

Project Budget (WRA/Local = Total): \$10,000 (carry over from FY 13-14 budget/ \$5000 (matching funds)= \$ 15,000

Project Description: Yolo Basin Foundation respectfully requests an extension of the FY 13-14 Yolo Bypass Integrated Project Scope of Work for FY 14-15. We estimate that we will have expended \$10,000 of the \$20,000 budget covered by the FY 13-14 contract. We request the opportunity to use the remaining \$10,000 during FY 14-15 to continue YBIP activities.

We will continue to convene, facilitate or participate in Yolo Bypass related stakeholder meetings including the Yolo Bypass Working Group, the Yolo Bypass Fish Enhancement Planning Team and others to implement the Yolo Bypass Integrated Action contained in the IRWMP. Convene issue specific subcommittees for the Working Group or other planning and study efforts as needed. Tasks will include but are not limited to coordination of YBIP activities with the range of Yolo Bypass related planning efforts currently under way including the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration EIS/EIS (USBOR), Delta Plan, Coalition for Delta Projects, SF Bay methyl mercury TMDL, Yolo County studies including an update to the Yolo Bypass Ag Impact Analysis and the Yolo Bypass Waterfowl Impact Model and others. There will also be stakeholder work involved in the development of a HEC/RAS Yolo Bypass Hydraulic Model. Activities will include meeting preparation, review of draft plans and meeting summaries and other materials, meeting attendance and field trips to educate stakeholders and other interest groups on Yolo Bypass related issues.

Project Status (check all appropriate boxes): (place cursor over appropriate box & double click left mouse button, select checked button)

- x Action contained in Yolo County IRWMP
- Action contained in Westside IRWMP
- Concept/development stage
- Planning/feasibility
- Permitting
- Design
- Construction
- Operation

Project Benefits:

Integrated Action(s) As a recognized leader of issues related to the Yolo Bypass, Yolo Basin Foundation will continue to foster communication and collaboration with Delta entities that are involved in large scale planning efforts related to the Yolo Bypass.

Agencies/Entities Involved:

Lead Agency (Name): Yolo Basin Foundation

Other Agencies/Entities (Name): CA Department of Water Resources, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, CA Resources Agency, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Bureau of Reclamation, Central Valley Joint Venture, Yolo County, Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Dixon RCD, Conaway Ranch, Knaggs Ranch, RD 2035, RD 2068 and 2098, Ducks Unlimited, California Waterfowl Association, West Sacramento Flood Control Agency, Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee, UC Davis Center for Watershed Science.

Project Schedule: Beginning Date: 07/01/14 Ending Date: 06/30/15

Consultants Involved (Names): n/a

Submitted by (Name/Agency): Robin Kulakow, Executive Director

Submitted on: 04/18/14

WRA Project Fund Request - Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Due on or before April 30, 2014

TC will review requests at their May 1, 2014 meeting

Email completed form to: info@yolowra.org

Available FY2014-15 Baseline Budget: \$98,500

Project Title: "The Year of Groundwater"

Project Budget (WRA/Local = Total): \$ 86,580/ \$45,000 = \$ 131,580

Project Description: Please see attached project description

Project Status (check all appropriate boxes): (place cursor over appropriate box & double click left mouse button, select checked button)

- Action contained in Yolo County IRWMP
- Action contained in Westside IRWMP
- Concept/development stage
- Planning/feasibility
- Permitting
- Design
- Construction
- Operation

Project Benefits:

Foundational Action(s): This Project directly supports the following Foundational Actions: FA1 (Groundwater Monitoring), FA3 (Subsidence Monitoring), FA4 (Groundwater Modeling), and FA7 (WRID)

Integrated Action(s): This project will provide support to virtually every integrated action in the IRWMP.

Agencies/Entities Involved:

Lead Agency (Name): Yolo County and the WRA Technical Committee

Other Agencies/Entities (Name): Anyone willing to actively participate in the Yolo County Ad Hoc Groundwater Committee.

Project Schedule: Beginning Date: 7/1/2014 Ending Date: 6/30/2014

Consultants Involved (Names): FRAME Surveying and Mapping, YCFCWCD

Submitted by (Name/Agency): Cindy Tuttle/ Yolo County & Tim O'Halloran/YCFCWCD

Submitted on: 4/30/2014

WRA Project Funds Request – Fiscal Year 2014-2015

The Year of Groundwater: A project proposal for WRA consideration.

Project Background and Description

The coming year promises to be critical and potentially controversial in the area of groundwater management and regulation.

Given the severe drought conditions that are being experienced in Yolo County, the switch to permanent crops with their annual water demand, the development of previously non-irrigated lands, the permitting and installation of numerous new groundwater wells, and especially the call by the Governor, the legislature and State regulatory agencies for new groundwater regulations, strong engagement by Yolo County interests in all things groundwater will be required.

Fortunately, Yolo County, its landowners and farmers, and the WRA membership finds itself in a strong position in which to address, analyze and contribute to the groundwater discussion that is already taking place and that will only intensify in the coming months and year. As has been recognized by both the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the State Department of Water Resources (DWR), Yolo County is a recognized leader in the area of groundwater management and monitoring. Through the decades long efforts of the WRA and its member agencies, much technical information and knowledge has already been developed. Some of these accomplishments include;

- The creation of a regional multi-agency groundwater level monitoring network that includes the deployment of number of real-time sensors. This network provides foundational (baseline) information that serves as both an early warning system for developing groundwater situations as well as a planning tool for Yolo County municipalities and agencies.
- The establishment and maintenance of a Water Resources Information Database (WRID) that includes an over 60-year record of county-wide groundwater elevations and quality. This modern database is well organized and accessible over the internet, allowing for huge efficiencies and cost savings by both the public and government agencies and their consultants.
- The development of a county-wide groundwater model (IGSM) that allows for analysis of current conditions and future groundwater management scenarios.
- The establishment of a Subsidence Network to establish subsidence rates on a periodic basis.
- The development of AB3030 Ground Water Management Plans by a number of Yolo County entities in compliance with DWR and State requirements.
- Engagement at State, Regional and Local levels on furthering pro-active groundwater management activities.

All of these accomplishments notwithstanding, this proposal calls for the WRA to support a series of groundwater activities in its coming fiscal year in order to advance its knowledge and leadership in all things groundwater.

While the cornerstone of this proposal is to have the WRA, through its project funds, finance a “Yolo Subsidence Network 2014 Observation Event” (see attached proposal from FRAME Surveying and Mapping for \$86,580), the County of Yolo and the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District are proposing to finance a separate part of the proposal that would include focused engagement by the YCFCWCD on behalf of Yolo County and the WRA in both the upcoming groundwater legislative and regulatory process, as well as the development of special reports, maps and written materials.

These efforts could include;

1. Outreach and engagement with various government agencies such as the SWRCB, DWR, ACWA, NCWA, etc. to provide input and feedback to any proposed legislation or regulations.
2. Briefings for the WRA, WRA Tech Committee, County Board of Supervisors, City Councils, Farm Bureau, Water Districts, and other local organizations on the status of State and local groundwater activities.
3. Facilitating the development and management of an inclusive stakeholder process to solicit input and engagement on groundwater issues at a grass roots community level.
4. Producing the following documents:
 - a. A Yolo County groundwater fact sheet
 - b. A “governance matrix” listing the existing groundwater authorities of our local agencies
 - c. A comprehensive 2014 Groundwater Report utilizing the data contained in the WRID
 - d. A map of existing groundwater wells
 - e. A bibliography of relevant groundwater reports
5. Tracking and descriptions of conjunctive use projects that could contribute to the sustainability of Yolo County groundwater.
6. Development of a dedicated Yolo County groundwater website.

The County of Yolo proposes to provide the WRA with \$25,000 of cash contribution with which to engage the management of YCFCWCD in accomplishing the above list of efforts. YCFCWCD will provide \$20,000 of in-kind services as its share of this focused groundwater engagement effort.

To summarize, this project consists of two parts; (1) a Yolo Subsidence Network 2014 Observation Event for \$86,580, and (2) the focused engagement by the YCFCWCD on the behalf of the County of Yolo and the WRA in both the upcoming groundwater legislative and regulatory process, as well as the development of special reports, maps and written materials. This second part would be financed by \$25,000 of cash contribution by Yolo County and \$20,000 of in-kind contribution by YCFCWCD.