

COORDINATING COMMITTEE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2022
Location: Hosted remotely by Solano County

Time: 10:00 – 12:00

Coordinating Committee Members Attending:

County		Representative		Alternate
Solano		Chris Lee, SCWA	✓	Max Stevenson, SCWA
Napa	✓	Chris Silke, NC Flood Control District		Richard Thomasser, NC Flood District
Yolo	✓	Elisa Sabatini, WRA Sabrina Snyder, Yolo County	✓	Sarah Leicht, Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Lake		Marina Deligiannis, Lake County Water Resources Dept.	✓	Angela DePalma-Dow, Lake County Water Resources Dept.

Others present: Yolanda Garibay, Lake County Special Districts; Scott Harter, LCSD; Tim Godwin, DWR; Ryan Fulton, LWA; Angela Islas, CivicWell; Katie Burdick, Burdick & Co.; William Fox, Lake County

AGENDA

1. **Call Meeting to Order and Introductions** – Max Stevenson, at 10:05
The meeting participants introduced themselves.
2. *** Reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency and determine that (i) The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and/or (ii) State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.**
– Mr. Stevenson opened the floor to discussion/ comments. Mr. Silke suggested that a hybrid model be pursued past the end of the state of emergency. Ms. Snyder: motion to continue with virtual meetings. Second: Mr. Stevenson. Roll call: Unanimous.
3. ***Approve Consent Agenda: Today’s Agenda, Minutes for September 29, 2022 virtual meeting, YCRCDC Financial Update, Coordinating Committee Financial Report** Ms. Snyder – motion to approve consent agenda; Mr. Silke, second. Roll call: Unanimous.
4. ***** Public Comment:** No public comment
5. ***Consideration of recording meetings** – Ms. Reza informed the CC that she received a request to record the meetings; Ms. DePalma-Dow stated that if meetings are recorded, it needs to be mentioned in future agendas along with where the recording will be housed. It was decided to make the link to the recording available with the meeting minutes on the WS IRWM website. Motion: record meetings and make them available on the WS IRWM website: Mr. Stevenson. Ms. DePalma-Dow: Second. Roll call: Unanimous.
6. **Dunnigan Groundwater Recharge Project update** – Ryan Fulton, LWA. Mr. Fulton reported that DWR gave the green light to go to work, and they accomplished some shorebird habitat recharge in the past few weeks – about 200,250 AF recharge. TNC has kicked in some funding for monitoring precipitation, recharge, and depth of habitat. The partners will be developing a report later this year to summarize the benefits. With respect to the CEQA exemption, the signed self-certification form in place, and the project should soon be listed on DWR’s CEQA exemption web page. LWA is working with YSGA to incorporate the project into YSGA’s sustainable groundwater management grant application. Ms. Sabatini – what is the forage for the shorebirds? The fields were previously rice fields with some native plants growing. Mr. Stevenson – Water source? Mt. Shasta; price: ~\$600/AF. District in process of obtaining more water rights to capture water for more recharge.



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7. **Presentation: Groundwater recharge projects & CEQA exemptions** (slides attached) – Tim Godwin provided a quick briefing on DWR’s support of recharge projects. CEQA suspension is offered under Drought Executive Order N-7-22: Action 13, CEQA Suspension for Recharge Projects – for projects identified in Groundwater Management Plans – targeting open and working lands to capture flood flows. The process is straightforward – a web page has been established (built into the drought page). The Dunnigan Groundwater Recharge project should be posted in the next few days.

8. **Drought Roundtable Discussion** – Intra-region drought & planning update – Lake County Water Resources: last month, fishing permits were canceled because of impacts on fisheries. Drought has caused significant impacts on the economy. Lake WD: Clearlake is at -2.6 Rumsey; water quality is a struggle. Groundwater levels in domestic wells have been pretty consistent; basins closer to town have been impacted more, but no dry well reports. Lake County WD received funding for an emergency well in Spring Valley. Yolo County YSGA: water level is currently at 44K feet in Indian Valley, still quite low (300K max capacity), less than 10% of a year’s supply. YCFC&WCD has virtually zero water to deliver. The main concern over the summer was groundwater levels because users switched to groundwater. YC received about \$500K in assistance for domestic wells – tanks and bottled water. Moving into November, problems are resolved as drillers work through their waitlist. 22 dry well reports resolved, and 15 are awaiting greater depth (drilling). Roundtables are being held between small water systems in the area. Solano: Lake Berryessa is one of the fullest lakes in the state – they have about a 2– 3-year supply. The reservoir is about ½ full and will be in drought rules next year if there’s no rain. GSA is monitoring groundwater, which is generally good. In Napa, use restrictions are still in place for cities and the valley floor region. Usage patterns have dropped about 15 – 20%. Lake Berryessa – the upper drainage started flowing with recent rains. A key observation this year was less algae growth, attributable to the large storm last year that blasted out the sediment and nutrients. Alluvial flow seems to be much better this year. Mr. Stevenson is feeling optimistic; Berryessa can fill in just a few weeks. Q – Lake County: how was the algae growth this year? A: Not as bad as last year, because it was colder in the spring and it didn’t get that hot until June, but it was still an issue near the City of Clearlake – mats 500’ wide for at least a month or two. SWRCB SAFER Countywide Program – William Fox had a question about whether anyone has used this program. Ms. Reza will follow up with William and the SAFER program staff.

9. **DWR Update** – Mr. Stevenson went through the DWR update PDF with the group, paying special attention to the highlighted opportunities. There is a potential for the CC to apply for the Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program. Ms. Reza to check in with CC members to see if there’s interest in putting in a joint application. Free leak detection systems – Ms. Reza to send out to project sponsors/Tribal contacts again; after she finds answer to the question: if leaks are found, is there a system in place to fund repairs? MS. DePalma-Dow shared that Lake County would benefit from leak detection around septic tanks.

10. **SRFA DACI projects update** – Katie Burdick – project manager for DWR Sac River Funding Area Disadvantaged Community Involvement grants, has been putting together Capital Improvement Plans (CIPs) for Lakeport and El Rio Villa. Lakeport – has gone for a bond to fund all of their substantive infrastructure improvements. Ms. Burdick is assisting them with locating supplemental funding and to put together a CIP document. El Rio Villa has necessitated adaptive management. They have over \$1M that they need to expend in this fiscal year. Ms. Burdick is working with them to prioritize with Yolo County on projects to expend the \$ on – then will go into assets management list and reprioritize remaining items on list. Everything is prioritized and ready to roll. One more piece – in the Yuba IRWM region, Yuba Water Agency is paying for Burdick and Co to expand from water/wastewater to expand to all public services to Wheatland; this is a template for that will be available to the rest of the SRFA members.

11. ***Consideration of amendments to 2022-23 WS IRWM budget** – Mr. Stevenson suggested allocating \$24K to small grants; Ms. DePalma-Dow suggested reviewing the small grants guidelines/scoring criteria/application at next meeting. Ms. Snyder suggested that the committee remain aware that the emergency funding program is still in place. Mr. Silke: motion to amend the budget to \$20K reserved for small grants program, which will be finalized next meeting with dates, forms, etc. Ms. Snyder: Second. Roll call: Unanimous.



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12. ***Consideration of Approval of WS IRWM CC annual payment amount** – Mr. Stevenson: motion to keep the fees the same as in 2021-22. Ms. Snyder: Second. Roll call: Unanimous.
13. **CC Member and Administrative Coordinator Reports, Regional Activities and Updates** – Ms. Leicht provided an update on YSGA membership in the CC. On September 19, the WRA BOD voted to dissolve and the YSGA BOD voted to take on the additional activities that the WRA was doing (mainly participation in the WS IRWM CC). YSGA is working on amending the WS IRWM MOU to cover the change. They have consulted with their attorney and plan to develop an addendum to the MOU that the committee could sign. Another option is to amend the MOU. Ms. Snyder suggested that Yolo County staff talk about who the proper representatives would be once the change in representation is formalized.
14. **Consideration of and planning for an in-person meeting in FY 22/23** – Mr. Stevenson said he likes in-person, but is okay with Zoom. Ms. Snyder suggested a field trip/ in-person meeting would be good and requested that it be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
15. **Confirm Next Meeting Date and Location** – Wednesday, January 11, 2022, 10:00 am, hosted by Yolo County.
16. **Adjourn – 12 PM**

Respectfully submitted, K Reza, Yolo County RCD

Approved by Westside Sacramento IRWM Coordinating Committee, [date](#)

Chris Lee, Chair _____ Date _____



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Streamlining Recharge

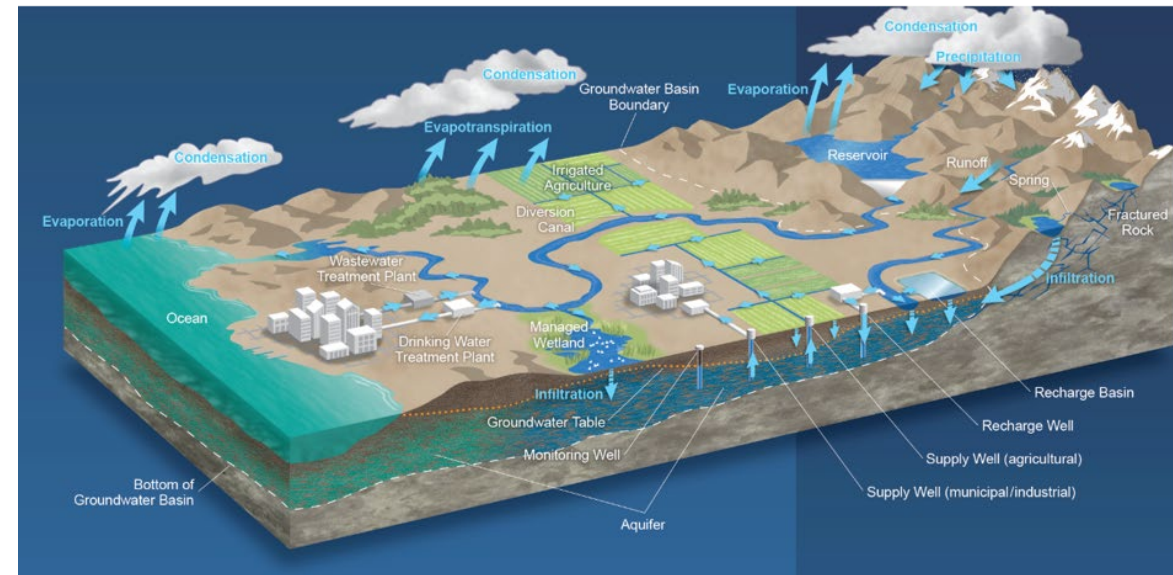
Westside Sac IRWM



November 2022

Drought Executive Order N-7-22: Action 13, CEQA Suspension for Recharge Projects

- **Action 13 suspends CEQA for recharge projects,** under Flood-MAR or DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program, occurring on:
 - Open lands
 - Working lands
 - That will help mitigate groundwater conditions impacted due to drought



E013 - Eligibility & Process

- The CEQA suspension applies to any actions taken by state agencies, actions taken by local agencies where DWR concurs with those actions, and any permits necessary to carry out these actions taken by the state or local agencies
- Entities implementing these actions are required to maintain on their websites a list of the activities approved under this Executive Order suspension

Step 1: Fill out Self-Certification Project Eligibility Form



Step 2: DWR concur and post to Website



+ CEQA Suspension for Recharge Projects

Water Supply Strategy: Action 2.1 Expand average annual groundwater recharge

- **Action 2.1 Water Right Permit Support,** Support GSAs/Local agencies to develop 180-day temporary water right permit application:
 - Large scale umbrella type permit
 - GSA/Local Agency holds right
 - Ideally working with existing PODs
 - DWR Pays Fees
- Collaboration DWR and SWRCB



Closing

- Resources:
 - Recharge Project CEQA Suspension
 - DWR Drought Webpage: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought>
 - Scroll down to the CEQA Suspension on Groundwater Recharge Projects
 - [Executive Order Item 13 Fact Sheet](#)
 - [Drought Executive Order N-7-22](#)
 - Expediting 180-day temporary water right support
 - DWR Drought Webpage: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought>
 - Scroll down to the Temporary Water Rights Permitting Regulatory Assistance
 - [Water Right Regulatory Assistance Fact Sheet](#)
 - [California Water Supply Strategy, Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future](#)
- For questions, please contact: SGMPS@water.ca.gov

