

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Public Works	(2) MEETING DATE 8/25/2015	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Scott Duffield, Water Resources Engineer (805)788-2316	
(4) SUBJECT Request to authorize the Director of Public Works to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to develop the Plan of Study for the Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study. Districts 1 and 5.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors, acting as the Board of Supervisors for the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, authorize the Director of Public Works to execute a Memorandum of Agreement in the form approved by County Counsel with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to develop the Plan of Study for the Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Fund 1300000000	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP Attached	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW David E. Grim			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) District 1 District 5			

Reference: 15AUG25-C-2

## County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Works  
Scott Duffield, Water Resources Engineer

VIA: Mark Hutchinson, Deputy Director of Public Works

DATE: 8/25/2015

SUBJECT: Request to authorize the Director of Public Works to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to develop the Plan of Study for the Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study. Districts 1 and 5.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors, acting as the Board of Supervisors for the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, authorize the Director of Public Works to execute a Memorandum of Agreement in the form approved by County Counsel with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to develop the Plan of Study for the Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study.

### **DISCUSSION**

The United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) has selected the Salinas and Carmel River Basins for a WaterSMART Program Basin Study. A Basin Study is a collaborative study, at least 50% cost-shared with non-Federal partners, to evaluate the impacts of climate change and help ensure sustainable water supplies by identifying strategies to address imbalances in water supply and demand. The non-Federal partners for the Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study would be the San Luis Obispo Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

Each study includes four key segments:

- State-of-the-art projections of future supply and demand by river basin, including the impacts of climate change through development of an integrated hydrologic model.
- An analysis of how the basin's existing water and power operations and infrastructure will perform in the face of changing water realities.
- Development of adaptation and mitigation strategies to meet current and future water demands.
- A trade-off analysis of the adaptation and mitigation strategies identified.

Additionally, the Basin Study would facilitate the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act efforts associated with the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin by providing for consistency across county lines and within the shared basin, and coordination on the development water management strategies to ensure they are complimentary.

The first step in the process is for the non-Federal partners to execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with USBR to develop a Plan of Study for the Basin Study. Attachment "1" is the template MOA provided by USBR. Staff is working with the partner agencies and USBR to define details of the MOA. However, given the quick timing, we request your Board authorize the Director of Public Works to execute the final MOA upon approval of County Counsel. The Plan of Study defines the scope, schedule and budget for the Basin Study, including the allocation of costs for each partner. Once the Plan of Study is developed, a second MOA would be brought to the Board for approval to proceed with the Basin Study.

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, Monterey County Water Resources Agency, and Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency coordinated with Public Works Department staff to develop the proposal for the Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study that was selected by the United States Bureau of Reclamation, and each agency would need to execute the MOA to proceed with developing the Plan of Study.

The Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee had been provided updates on the Basin Study proposal. Stakeholder engagement will be a key element of the Plan of Study and Basin Study efforts.

County Counsel will review the final MOA for legal form and effect.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Staff efforts to coordinate with the project partners on the development of the Plan of Study are covered under the existing approved FY 2015-16 Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

USBR will make \$950,000 available for conducting the work associated with the Salinas and Carmel River Basins Study, and the non-Federal partners must provide a cumulative 1:1 cost match through in-kind work efforts, to meet the total study cost of \$1,900,000. Although we believe that much of the work already done by the District (Basin Model Update and Supply Options Study) will qualify as "in kind" support, thereby reducing our out-of-pocket obligation for cost match, staff will return after completion of the Plan of Study with any necessary budget adjustment recommendations associated with executing the MOA to conduct the Basin Study and meeting cost match requirements.

### **RESULTS**

Approval of the recommended action will provide your Board with the best possible recommendations on these regional water related issues, resulting in a more livable and well-governed community.

File: CF 340.280.01 Fund 19 – Paso Robles Groundwater Basin

Reference: 15AUG25-C-2

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Vicinity Map
2. Attachment 1 - Draft Memorandum of Agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation