

WaterSMART Drought Response Program:
Drought Contingency Planning Grants for Fiscal Year 2018

Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project



February 6, 2018

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1.0 TECHNICAL PROPOSAL AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

1.1 Executive Summary

Date: February 5, 2018
Applicant Name: El Dorado County Water Agency
City, County, State: Placerville, El Dorado, CA

1.1.1 Project Summary

This is a collaborative project to develop, with Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) funding and assistance, a Regional Drought Contingency Plan (RDCP) among the water purveyors and other water stakeholders of the upper American River and Cosumnes Watersheds. The recent statewide California drought revealed substantial risks to the public water supply system throughout the state, including throughout the upper watersheds of the American River and Cosumnes River, and highlighted the need for collaborative drought planning to build resiliency in advance of future crises caused by dry conditions and reductions in the Sierra Nevada snowpack. El Dorado County Water Agency (Water Agency), an organization established to support water management and planning for county water purveyors, farmers, ranchers, resource conservation districts, local governments and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), is acting as the applicant and planning lead for the effort, with EID as a key planning partner. The other water purveyors in the planning area: Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), Georgetown Divide Public Utility District (GDPUD) and Grizzly Flats Community Services District (GFCS) have committed to engage as active members of the Drought Planning Task Force (Task Force). Other water stakeholders that will be solicited to participate in the process include tribal stakeholders, public and private landowners – including the USFS, agricultural interests and local conservation organizations. All of these stakeholders have been working on water management and planning for more than a decade and most have been active participants with the Integrated Regional Watershed Management (IRWM) process for the region, a process that culminated with the Cosumnes, American, Bear, and Yuba (CABY) IRMP Plan in 2007, an update of which was adopted by CABY Planning and Coordinating Committees in 2014. Additionally, a separate RDCP recently concluded (October 2017) for the lower American River’s North American River Basin that was led by PCWA and included partnerships with the Cities of Folsom, Roseville and Sacramento, the Regional Water Authority¹ (RWA), and the San Juan Water District (SJWD). RWA assisted to facilitate stakeholder input with 12 additional water purveyors located in the NAB. This application will integrate upstream drought contingency planning with the recent North American Basin RDCP.

¹ RWA is a joint powers authority formed in 2001 and consisting of more than 20 water suppliers in the greater Sacramento region for the purpose of protecting and enhancing the sustainability of regional water supplies. The RDCP for the NAB included California American Water, Carmichael Water District, Citrus Heights Water District, City of Lincoln, Del Paso Manor Water District, Fair Oaks Water District, Golden State Water Company, Natomas Central Mutual Water Company, Orange Vale Water Company, Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District, Sacramento County Water Agency, Sacramento Suburban Water District.

1.1.2 Length of Time and Estimated Completion Date for the Project

The project will be completed within a two-year (24 month) timeframe with an estimated completion date by the end of May of 2020.

1.1.3 Reclamation Project, Facility, or Activity

Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP) Folsom Unit derives water from the geographic area to be addressed by the RDCP for the upper American River Watershed. In addition Reclamation has a working relationship with the Water Agency under the Pine Hill Preserve Cooperative Management Agreement and has a contract with EID for 17,000 acre feet of water from Folsom Reservoir under the Warren Act.

1.2 **Background Data**

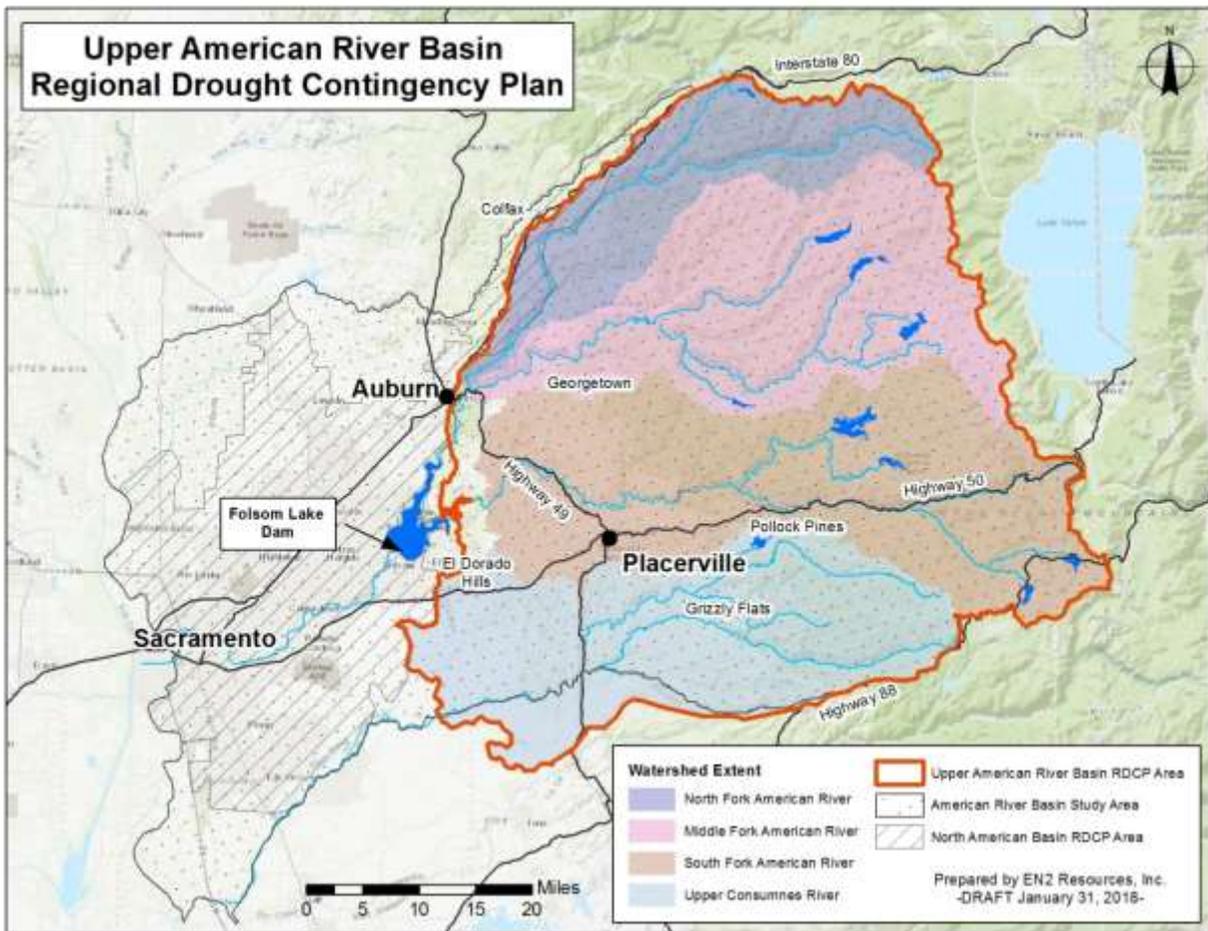
The planning area for the proposed Upper American River Basin RDCP encompasses El Dorado County, California, and also includes approximately 750 square miles of the southeast portion of Placer County. The planning area is composed of the American River Watershed above Folsom Reservoir; and the upper Cosumnes River Watershed. Figure 1 shows the planning area in relation to the American River and Cosumnes River Watersheds, and in relation to two other planning areas: 1) the planning area for the recently finalized (October 2017) North American Basin RDCP; and 2) the planning area for the in-progress American River Basin Study (both projects supported through Reclamation cost share). Altogether the entire area subject to the proposed RDCP includes approximately 2,400 square miles.

The American River Watershed is made up of three major rivers: the North Fork, Middle Fork, and South Fork American Rivers. Water flows from the headwaters in the Sierra Nevada mountains through the three forks as well as through the flumes and canals of EID's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 184 to the Folsom Reservoir and Dam, where Reclamation's CVP supplies Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) environmental and in-Delta water supply needs. Roughly 85% of the American River Watershed is federally owned public lands; 1,900 square miles of the watershed are within the Eldorado or Tahoe National Forests. The upper Cosumnes River Watershed is made up of the North, Middle and South Fork Rivers within El Dorado County. The watershed covers approximately 630 square miles and exhibits mostly natural flow as there are no major dams or power stations on the rivers. The vast majority of the Cosumnes River Watershed is forest land and wilderness areas characterized by steep canyons that give way to foothill areas.

There are numerous small rural communities within the planning area and several concentrated population areas including Pollock Pines, City of Placerville, Georgetown, Shingle Springs, and El Dorado Hills. Residential and agricultural water users in the RDCP area are mainly serviced by one of two large water purveyors: EID or PCWA; or by one of two smaller purveyors: GDPUD or GFCSD. The vast majority of water provided by these purveyors flows from surface water diversions from the North Fork, Middle Fork and South Fork of the American River.

The major water demands in the planning area include residential, agricultural, recreation, and hydroelectric generation. Based on recent purveyor-specific urban water management plans, El Dorado County water purveyors provided approximately 40,000 AF of water to users in El Dorado County in 2015.² Of this total, EID, the largest water purveyor in the area, met demands for approximately 30,400 AF of potable, raw and recycled water in 2015, serving a population of about 110,000. Based on projected increases in water demands associated with projected population increases (El Dorado County’s current population of 185,446 is expected to increase to 217,197 by 2045) and increased acreage of agricultural production, EID’s annual average water demand is expected to increase to 58,205 AFY by 2040.³ Groundwater from fractured rock sources used by residents and growers outside water purveyor service boundaries provides an additional source of water to some users, though the long-term reliability of both the quantity and quality of groundwater from fractured rock sources is uncertain.

Figure 1 Proposed American River Basin RCDP Area



² EID. 2016. 2015 Urban Water Management Plan. Appendix A-1. Table 4-3. June 27, 2016; GDPUD 2011, 2010 Urban Water Management Plan, Table 11; GFCSD. 2012. Water Supply and Demand Update.

³ EID. 2016. 2015 Urban Water Management Plan. Appendix A-1. Table 4-3. June 27, 2016;

Water rights within the RDCP area are divided among the Water Agency, Reclamation, EID, GDPUD, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (on behalf of the City of Sacramento) and GFCSD. Water rights are described by various permits, licenses and agreements. The multitude of claims to water rights from within the RDCP area represent a substantial stress to the capacity of the watersheds, especially in times of drought, to provide water to downstream users and sustain local aquatic ecosystems.

EID water supplies come from pre-1914 water rights, CVP and Warren Act contracts, permitted diversions for Project 184 (Permit 21112), EID owned Jenkinson Reservoir, and recycled water. Similarly, GDPUD water supplies come from pre-1914 water rights and permitting diversions from Permit 11304, 11305, 11306, and 12827. In the RDCP area, Reclamation oversees diversion of water from the Upper American River from the Sly Park and Folsom-Auburn Divisions of the American River CVP, providing up to 500,000 AFY of water for recreation, hydroelectric power, municipal, industrial and irrigation purposes, of which 4,560 AFY is diverted for the western portion of El Dorado County. Folsom Reservoir captures the flow from the American River watershed and is an important part of the CVP. Reclamation previously owned the Sly Park Unit in El Dorado County, which consists of the Sly Park Dam and Jenkinson Lake on Sly Park Creek, Camp Creek Diversion Dam on Camp Creek, and the Camino Conduit. EID purchased the Sly Park Unit infrastructure in late 2003.

Major agriculture in the region includes timber harvest, vineyards, and orchards. Recreation includes several reservoirs for boating and whitewater rafting. Dams distributed throughout the American River and Cosumnes River Watersheds release water throughout the year for hydroelectric and recreational purposes. Along the South Fork of the American River below Ice House Reservoir, an average of 850-950 cubic feet per second (cfs) is released to support kayaking and rafting activities. Hydroelectric generation primarily takes place on the South Fork where there are 11 hydroelectric stations; of these, SMUD operates eight hydroelectric plants generating up to 688 megawatts (MW), and EID, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), and Rock Creek Powerhouse each operate one. There are five hydroelectric stations along the Middle Fork, all of which are owned and operated by PCWA. The Folsom-Auburn Dam has a maximum outlet capacity of 115,000 cfs and an installed capacity of 198.7 MW.

Reclamation currently has many working relationships with the Water Agency, including under the Pine Hill Preserve Cooperative Management Agreement, and has a contract with EID for 17,000 acre feet of water from Folsom Reservoir under the Warren Act. This water supply is limited to 8,500 acre feet until EID installs new infrastructure.

1.3 Project Description

The approach for developing the RDCP (a new plan, Task A) will include the following six Drought Contingency Planning Steps.

Task 1: Establish a Drought Planning Task Force

The Planning Lead, the Water Agency will develop a Task Force that includes all of the water purveyors in the project area: EID, PCWA, GDPUD and GFCSD; and engages participation from the Regional Water Authority (RWA) representing the interests of downstream water

purveyors. The Task Force membership will also be composed of stakeholders representing, at a minimum, agricultural, tribal, environmental, and landowner interests. Participation commitment has already been received from multiple stakeholders. Representatives from Reclamation would be engaged as a key interest within the RDCP area and beyond.

Task 2: Develop a Detailed Work Plan

The Water Agency, in consultation with Task Force members and Reclamation, will develop a detailed work plan prior to commencing substantive work on the RDCP. The work plan will leverage the information, resources, processes and materials available from the North American Basin Water Reliability and Drought Contingency Plan and process, and from the in-process American River Basin Study (part of Reclamation's WaterSMART Basin Studies Program).

Task 3: Develop and Execute a Communication and Outreach Plan

The Water Agency, in consultation with Task Force members, will develop a communication and outreach plan to ensure active stakeholder and public engagement in preparation of the RDCP. The plan will include an effort to engage stakeholders representing interests beyond those already committed to participate in the planning process, including to landowners with substantive land and/or water rights, and to the multiple agricultural interests in the planning area.

Task 4: Develop a Draft RDCP

Once tasks 1 through 3 are completed, work will commence on a draft RDCP. The RDCP will include the six required plan elements described as subtasks below.

4a. Drought Monitoring. The RDCP will establish a process for monitoring near and long-term water availability, and for developing a framework for predicting the probability of future drought or confirming an existing drought. This process will include inventorying and comparing the current resources, tools and data (e.g. precipitation, temperature, stream gauges, climate models etc...) used by water purveyors and other stakeholders to evaluate water availability and make long-term infrastructure management decisions. Data weaknesses, inconsistencies, or gaps in data collection will be identified to ensure that drought monitoring efforts going forward accurately cover the entire RDCP geography, and that comprehensive data is shared among water stakeholders to create a regional understanding of near and long-term water availability, and to predict future drought probability.

4b. Vulnerability Assessment. The RDCP will include an assessment of the risks and impacts of current and future drought in the RDCP area, taking into account projected future hydrologic conditions. Recent and historical droughts have exposed many of these vulnerabilities such as low reservoir storage, low precipitation and snow pack, reductions to in-stream flows, increased wildfire threat, reduced recreation opportunities (e.g. whitewater rafting), water right curtailments, water contract entitlement reductions, and state mandated conservation targets. The vulnerability assessment will consider the effects of drought on key local economies (agriculture, recreation), and on ecosystems – including impacts to forest health, the threat of wildfire, and the function of natural systems that currently provide valuable services (e.g. water purification and groundwater

recharge). The vulnerability assessment will incorporate information emerging from the American River Basin Study, and will reference the existing water supply assessment included in the CABY IRWMP. The task will involve reviewing seniority of water rights, and current and future water supplies and demands. As part of this task a GIS based map of major regional water infrastructure will be developed to identify the current ability to move water around the region and the interconnections between water systems. Development of the map will be coordinated and overlaid with the GIS map of infrastructure created as part of the North American Basin RDCP. The mapping exercise will include a description of all infrastructure in terms of its purpose, capacity, integrity, operating pressures, age, and other qualities. Criteria will be developed by the Task Force to evaluate the effectiveness of the mapped infrastructure in times of scarce water supplies, and within the context of projected future hydrologic conditions.

4c. Mitigation Actions. This task will identify, evaluate and prioritize actions and activities to improve the region's resilience in the face of drought conditions. This task will include reflecting on the vulnerabilities identified in task 4b to create regional and purveyor-specific drought resilience goals and objectives. Criteria to rank the priority of regional and utility-specific projects would be developed by the Task Force and would include an evaluation of how potential projects would address identified goals and objectives, how the projects would increase water reliability and/or water management flexibility in times of scarce water supplies and/or under changed climatic conditions, and how proposed projects mitigate for vulnerabilities to agriculture, recreation and ecosystems. Practical constraints and feasibility will also be taken into account. This task may involve authorizing additional studies to evaluate the design feasibility of mitigation options for which there is quick consensus among Task Force members of need and importance. Mitigation measures may include the following categories of actions.

- System Modifications or Improvements. These are projects that would increase water supply reliability and/or the flexibility of water convenience and deliveries, and may include constructing new convenience systems components such as pumping plants, or interties between water conveyance systems. Most water purveyors in the region have already identified potential projects to increase water reliability and management flexibility. These projects would be evaluated in the context of each individual water purveyor's specific reliability challenge, and also in the context of the identified regional water supply vulnerabilities. This category may include evaluation of potential stormwater capture and reuse systems – particularly for agriculture demands.
- Decision Support Tools, Modeling and Measurement. Likely projects in this category include some of the potential modeling and measurements tools presented in Reclamation's FY 2018 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for Drought Resilience Projects. In particular, real-time operational modeling that tracks supply conditions and demand and that models and analyzes scenarios to meet user needs and compliance standards could be a good fit for the region.
- Ecosystem and Forest Health Projects. These include projects to create consistent in-stream flow for at-risk species; headwaters and meadow restoration projects to increase groundwater recharge and reduce the rate of stream flow velocities and

runoff; and forest health projects to reduce the risk of wildfire to key infrastructure, and to consider the value of healthy forests to preservation of snowpack.

- Conservation Projects. These include efforts to increase the efficiency of water use among water users and for agricultural operations; and projects to increase water delivery efficiency including projects to address water loss as a result of leaking infrastructure.

4d. Response Actions. This task will identify, evaluate, and prioritize response actions and activities that can decrease the severity of impacts caused by an ongoing drought. This task will involve asking Task Force members to identify the existing state mandated drought policy response requirements they must adhere to during the various phases of drought severity, and also to identify any additional voluntary programs or policy requirements implemented during the most recent drought. The Task Force will review this information and, as much as possible, quantify the water use savings associated with identified actions. The Task Force will also discuss and document observations and experiences members tracked during the most recent drought related to enacting mandated or voluntary water use restriction practices. This will include documenting, as much as possible, reductions to in-stream flows during the most severe drought months and the impacts of drought from an economic perspective. Task Force members will share ideas related to additional potential drought response actions. Deliverables associated with this task will include a comprehensive list of response actions matched with drought severity phases according to drought monitoring information (from Task 4a). Task Force members will develop expectations and agreements related to enactment of response actions with the goal of improving stakeholder expectations of water flows and supply during future droughts.

4e. Operational and Administrative Framework. The Water Agency, in collaboration with Reclamation and interested Drought Task Force members will develop an operational and administrative framework to clarify the ongoing roles and responsibilities associated with implementing the RDCP – including related to conducting drought monitoring, implementing identified mitigation measures, enacting identified drought response actions, and managing updates to the plan.

4f. Plan Update Process. The RDCP will include a description of the process that was undertaken to develop the plan, including how stakeholders were engaged and input considered. The RDCP will also include a process and schedule for monitoring, evaluating and updating the RDCP.

Task 5: Prepare Final RDCP

Following completion of the draft RDCP, a review copy will be submitted to Reclamation to ensure the plan meets program requirements. Additionally, a draft of the RDCP will be provided to Task Force members and other stakeholders for a 30-day review period. This task includes addressing and responding to comments from stakeholders after the review period, and preparing a final version of the RDCP.

Task 6: Reclamation Agreement Management

This task will ensure that all project activities are in compliance with the Reclamation funding agreement. This includes preparation of semi-annual reports and reimbursement requests, draft and final project reports, and contractor procurement.

1.4 Evaluation criteria

1.4.1 Evaluation Criteria A – Need for a Drought Contingency Plan or Plan Update

Severity of risks to water supplies that will be addressed in the Drought Contingency Plan.

California's recent historic drought from 2013 through 2016 stressed water supply availability throughout California, including throughout the Upper American River Basin. The drought included the four driest consecutive years of statewide precipitation on record and included the lowest ever recorded snowpack in California in 2015, just 5% of normal. In the proposed Upper American River Basin RDCP planning area the drought demonstrated the plausible scenario where post-1914 appropriative water rights would be curtailed, and where agricultural water users would receive zero allocations for deliveries from water surface contracts through the CVP. The drought demonstrated that it is possible that most CVP water supplies available to EID and the Water Agency could be cut off during the summer months of a drought year.

Examples of impacts from the recent drought in the upper American River Basin include the following.

- EID declared a Stage 2 drought emergency from February 4, 2014 through March 28, 2016. GDPUD declared a Stage 2 drought emergency from April 8, 2014 to March 8, 2016. PCWA declared a Water Shortage Emergency Condition from February 6, 2014 to February 18, 2016. All of these declarations mandated or requested water conservation measures be implemented by customers. EID's declaration mandated customers reduce potable water consumption by 30%, GPDUD's resolution requested 30% potable water reductions and also mandated curtailing irrigation water use by 25%. PCWA's declaration requested customers reduce potable water use by 20%.
- EID customers in the foothill community of Outingdale experienced Stage 4 drought emergency water curtailments beginning in June of 2014 restricting residents there to 68 gallons of water per person per day.
- In-stream flows for fish were dramatically reduced beginning in the winter of 2014 as part of EID's Stage 2 drought emergency declaration. Under the declaration EID was relieved from maintaining fish flow requirements from its Kyburz Diversion Dam and from its four alpine reservoirs as well as from Jenkinson Lake in Sly Park. As a result, water released from many alpine reservoirs was reduced by more than half of otherwise required fish flows, threatening downstream aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.
- The drought conditions and resulting bark beetle infestations that caused pervasive tree mortality across the Central and Southern Sierra Nevada Mountains (with some 129 million dead trees as of May 2016) also impacted Eldorado National Forest where some

200,000 dead trees were documented in a May 2016 overflight of the forest. Dead trees threaten public safety and infrastructure and increase wildfire danger.

- Folsom Reservoir fell to a record low storage level of 135,561 acre-feet, threatening the water supply to more than one million people in the lower American River Basin. During the drought CVP water supplies experienced a 75% reduction.

Existing and potential drought conditions that will be addressed in the Drought Contingency Plan. The frequency and severity of droughts in California are expected to increase due to changing hydrologic conditions associated with a warming climate. Climate change projections for California generally predict increased summer temperatures, which could increase water demand despite improved water use efficiency measures. In addition, climate models predict a greater proportion of precipitation falling as rain rather than snow, and earlier snowmelt due to overall increased temperatures throughout the winter and spring. For example, the midpoint of snowmelt runoff has historically occurred in May, but models developed by the University of California Los Angeles estimate that by 2081 midpoint surface runoff will fall between late February and early March⁴. Reduced snowpack combined with earlier spring runoff reduce the availability of water downstream during the summer and fall. The lack of groundwater as a supplemental water source/ reliance of water purveyors in the planning area on surface water further exacerbates the region's high vulnerability to future drought conditions associated with reduced snowpack.

Status of any existing planning efforts. There is no existing coordinated plan among the water purveyors and other water stakeholders of the Upper American River Basin to regionally address and mitigate for impacts created by drought. Interagency planning is necessary to address emerging climate change conditions and increasingly intense and more frequent extreme drought events, especially considering that water demand in El Dorado County is expected to increase; the Water Agency estimates up to 69,000 additional AFY of water demand will be needed at build out of the 2004 El Dorado General Plan⁵. As a result of increased water demand coupled with potentially diminishing supplies due to drought, the Water Agency estimates that water purveyors in the region may experience water supply shortages as early as 2028, even when considering implementation of state and local water conservation mandates.

Existing planning efforts in the area include the recently finalized (October 2017) North American Basin RDCP prepared by the Regional Water Authority (RWA) with Reclamation support. That plan addresses risks to public water supply to the greater Sacramento region (Placer and Sacramento Counties) and proposes measures to increase the region's water resiliency for future drought and climate conditions. This RDCP will add continuity to the North American Basin RDCP by creating a coordinated drought contingency plan among upper American River water purveyors and other water stakeholders, and by improving coordination

⁴ Schwartz, M., A. Hall, F. Sun, D. Walton, and N. Berg, 2017: Significant and Inevitable End-of-Twenty-First-Century Advances in Surface Runoff Timing in California's Sierra Nevada. *J. Hydrometeorol.*, 18, 3181–3197, <https://doi.org/10.1175/JHM-D-16-0257.1>

⁵ El Dorado County Water Agency. 2014. Water Resources Development and Management Plan. West Slope Update. pp. 119-223, Table 7-1 and 7-2

and planning between both the lower and upper American River. Additionally, the American River Basin Plan Study was recently initiated to take a detailed look at how climate change may impact water supply, water quality and critical habitat areas within the American River Basin. This proposed Upper American River RDCP will build upon both these studies, augmenting the existing information with actionable plans agreed to by a diversity of stakeholders invested in water management and water rights.

1.4.2 Evaluation Criterion B – Inclusion of Stakeholders

Among the most important components setting the stage for the Water Agency and partners to develop a meaningful RCDP in accordance with Reclamation guidelines are a diverse set of stakeholders strongly motivated to develop a coordinated response to future droughts, and to identify the best possible mitigation measures to reduce stress associated with anticipated future water shortages. The table below identifies those stakeholders who have already expressed interest and/or commitment to participate as active members of the Task Force. Existing in-kind commitments from these stakeholders, which include water purveyors, agricultural interests, tribal interests, and conservation interests, total 527 hours. Many of the organizations and agencies that have expressed a commitment to participate in this process are also members of the Cosumnes American Bear Yuba Integrated Regional Water Management (CABY IRMW) group and have been working together for more than a decade to collaboratively manage all aspects of water resources in the CABY region.

Table 1. Current and Proposed RDCP Participants

Organization	Status		Stakeholder Interest				
	Current Stakeholder	To Be Invited	Water Rights Holder/ Supplier	Agricultural	Environment	Cultural	Recreation
El Dorado County Water Agency	X		X	X	X		X
El Dorado Irrigation District	X		X				
Georgetown Divide Public Utility District	X		X				
Grizzly Flats Community Services District	X		X				
Placer County Water Agency	X		X	X	X		X
County of El Dorado: Department of Agriculture, Weights, and Measures	X			X			
El Dorado County Band of Miwok Indians, and Cosumnes Culture and WaterWays	X				X	X	
American River Conservancy	X				X		X
El Dorado County Resource Conservation District	X				X		

Regional Water Authority	X		X				
United States Forest Service, Eldorado National Forest	X				X		X
California Dept. of Fish and Game		X			X		
Sacramento Municipal Utility District		X	X				
Pacific Gas & Electric		X	X				
El Dorado Wine Grape Growers Association		X		X			
EDC Farm Bureau		X		X			
Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians		X			X	X	
Citizens for Water		X		X	X		X

As a component of kicking off the Regional Drought Contingency Planning Process, and as an anticipated component of the Communication and Outreach Task (Task 3), all stakeholders who have expressed an interest in participating in Drought Task Force Meetings, including all of the partners who have submitted letters of commitment and/or support for the process, will be invited to a drought planning kick-off meeting. This initial kickoff meeting will provide stakeholders with an overview of the process, a discussion of information needs, and a timeline, among other items. In addition, and prior to the kickoff meeting, the Water Agency will work with existing stakeholders to identify if there are any other agencies or organizations that should be invited to the kickoff meeting or involved in the process in some other way. The Communication and Outreach Plan will identify how to reach out to those stakeholders and how to keep them engaged or informed of the RDCP development process.

1.4.3 Evaluation Criterion C – Project Implementation

The Water Agency’s proposed six-step approach for developing the Drought Contingency Plan is provided in section 1.3, Project Description. That section includes a discussion of how to incorporate each of the six required elements of a Drought Contingency Plan into the proposed RDCP. In summary, the Water Agency’s six step approach is:

- Task 1: Establish a Drought Planning Task Force.
- Task 2: Develop a Detailed Work Plan
- Task 3: Develop and Execute a Communication and Outreach Plan
- Task 4: Develop a Draft RDCP including the following components:
 - 4a. Drought Monitoring
 - 4b. Vulnerability Assessment
 - 4c. Mitigation Actions
 - 4d. Response Actions
 - 4e. Operational and Administrative Framework
 - 4f. Plan Update Process.
- Task 5: Prepare Final RDCP
- Task 6: Reclamation Agreement Management

The schedule below (Table 2) illustrates how and when we propose to complete each of the six planning steps within the two-year time frame. The schedule assumes a commencement date of June 2018. The project assumes an approximately 24-month project duration with completion by end of May of 2020. Semi-annual interim reports will be submitted in November 2018 and June 2019, and a final progress report will be submitted by May 31, 2020. The numbered boxes in Task 1: Establish Drought Planning Task Force, indicate the months during which Task Force meetings are anticipated to be scheduled.

Table 2. Proposed Schedule to Develop RDCP

Task	2018						2019						2020										
	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A
1: Establish Drought Planning Task Force	1		2	3	4		5		6	7	8		9		10		11				12		
2: Develop Detailed Work Plan																							
3: Develop and Execute Communication and Outreach Plan	initiate outreach		ongoing public noticing and outreach																				
4: Develop Draft RDCP																							
5: Prepare Final RDCP																							
6: Reclamation Agreement Management																							

Note: Orange numbered boxes indicate planned Task Force meetings.

Task Force members are asked to commit to attending up to 12 Task Force planning meetings, approximately 4 hours in length per meeting, over the two-year planning period. On average this is a 48 hour commitment per member. Once workplan tasks 1-3 have been completed and development of the RDCP is underway, the initial step of Task Force members and consultants (under Task 4) will include inventorying and comparing existing current resources, tools, data and models used by water purveyors and other stakeholders to evaluate water availability and make long-term infrastructure management decisions. These existing resources will be reviewed to identify data weaknesses, inconsistencies and gaps as a component of developing improved drought monitoring efforts going forward. This task will also involve determining the best available and most accurate models and data projections available to create a shared regional understanding among Task Force members of likely future water availability in relation to current and future projected water demands by sector. Beyond assisting with improved drought monitoring and improving overall regional understanding, this review exercise will also provide information important to assessing purveyor-specific and region-wide drought vulnerabilities, and to begin to identify and prioritize mitigation actions. Existing plans and studies that will be

reviewed, along with the data and models on which those plans and studies are based, include: the North American Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan (October 2017); the in-progress American River Basin Study, the in-progress El Dorado County Water Reliability Project, EID's Drought Action Plan (2014 Update), EID's Drought Preparedness Plan (2008), PCWAs Urban Water Management Plan (2015), GDPUD's Drought Plan (2007), Water Agency's Drought Plan for El Dorado County Water Agency West Slope (2007), El Dorado County's General Plan (2004), and Department of Water Resources (DWRs) California Water Plan Update (2013).

Personnel Qualifications. We have assembled a highly skilled and experienced team to complete the RDCP. We anticipate that with the proposed funding being in the form of a cooperative financial assistance agreement Reclamation will have substantial involvement throughout the course of the project. The following individuals from the Water Agency and EID will work with a selected consultant to lead the project.

- Kenneth V. Payne, P.E., General Manager, El Dorado County Water Agency: Mr. Payne is an experienced professional with over 32 years of experience in both private and public sectors. He recently completed 10 years of service with the City of Folsom as Environmental Utilities Director and an expanded role in the City Manager's Office regarding legislative and regional matters. Previously, Mr. Payne provided organizational and infrastructure consulting to public agencies throughout the western United States. His experience includes leadership in budgetary development and administration; infrastructure planning; design, operations and construction standards for projects and program implementation; personnel management; labor; and general government administration. Mr. Payne holds a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of the Pacific, Stockton, and is a registered civil engineer in California and Guam. In addition to day-to-day operational, and project/program management, Mr. Payne has successfully worked with local and regulatory agencies for "non-litigated" compliance; streamlining operational and maintenance activities; securing federal/state funding and strategy development for regulatory/legislative matters that impact local governments, and has developed customer friendly public & community outreach and messaging.
- Tami Scowcroft, Business Services Officer, El Dorado County Water Agency: Ms. Scowcroft oversees the financial affairs, including the annual budget, for the Water Agency and the El Dorado County Water and Power Authority. Ms. Scowcroft presents a clear picture of the financial strength of the agency and facilitating budget decisions by the Board of Directors. She prepares monthly financial reports, tracks accounts, provides audit support, and administers contracts for the two agencies ensuring that there is a detailed record of all correspondence and transactions. Ms. Scowcroft is also an active member of the CABY IRWM and currently serves as the Treasurer. Ms. Scowcroft is a graduate of California State University, Chico, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism. Prior to joining the Water Agency in 2004, she became accomplished in the areas of sales, marketing and customer service.
- Brian Mueller, Engineering Director, El Dorado Irrigation District: Mr. Mueller has worked at EID for over 22 years. He was originally hired as an assistant engineer and has held various engineering positions in the water, wastewater, and hydroelectric divisions. A registered civil engineer, he has extensive experience in the planning, design, and

construction of public works projects. Brian has led the district through some major milestones, including a \$40 million program to replace uncovered drinking water storage reservoirs, and the \$22 million emergency replacement of the Pleasant Oak Main waterline.

- **Additional Contract Needs:** As part of the planning process, the Water Agency will obtain a consultant to assist with the RDCP efforts. The Water Agency has a strong relationship with several consultants who have a history of water resource management in the region. Prior consultant activities include hydroelectric studies for EID, managing relicensing of SMUD's Upper American River Project, and development of integrated water management plans. The selected consultant will be responsible for helping coordinate and facilitate Task Force Meetings, developing a detailed workplan for the course of the project, ensuring implementation of the Communication and Outreach Plan, gathering background data, and drafting the RDCP for stakeholder review. The consultant work closely with the previously identified staff and prepare the RDCP under the direction of the Project Manager, Mr. Payne.

1.4.4 Evaluation Criterion D – Nexus to Reclamation

This RDCP effort has a strong connection with Reclamation project activities. The American River watershed flows into Folsom Reservoir which is a major Reclamation facility and part of the Central Valley Project. Participating water agencies and water purveyors have contracts with Reclamation for use of water from all three forks of the American River. Some of this water is diverted into Jenkinson Lake and released through Sly Park Dam, previously owned by Reclamation, into the Cosumnes River watershed. The projects that will be identified in this RDCP will provide the region with great flexibility in matching water source and demand with hydrologic conditions experienced in any given water year type, particularly during drought conditions.

2.0 PROJECT BUDGET

2.1 Funding Plan

The Water Agency is acting as the lead applicant for Reclamation funding and as the Planning Lead for development of the RDCP. The Water Agency is the trusted, county-wide leader on water-resource issues, representing the long-term interest of the community, purveyors and residents through a dedicated team of professionals, responsive and accountable to the public they serve. To date the Water Agency has received eight letters from stakeholders in the RDCP area committing a total of 327 in-kind hours, worth more than \$33,000, including 100 hours of commitment from the largest water purveyor in the region, EID. In addition to these funding commitments, the Water Agency has received three letters expressing support for the process and/or commitment to participate in Task Force meetings, including from the water purveyor GDPUD, who, as expressed in the support letter from GDPUD's general manager, strongly supports the process, but was not able to budget a specific number of in-kind hours prior to the submission of this application. The Water Agency (applicant) is committing 200 in-kind hours and additional cash to hire an appropriate consultant to cover the remaining non-Federal share of project costs. Table 3 summarizes funding sources for the project.

Table 3. Summary of Funding Sources

Funding Source	Amount
Non Federal Entities	
El Dorado County Water Agency (in-kind)*	\$20,502.00
El Dorado County Water Agency (cash)	\$46,500.00
El Dorado Irrigation District (in-kind)*	\$17,000.00
Grizzly Flats Community Service District (in-kind)*	\$2,304.00
Eldorado National Forest (in-kind)*	\$2,250.20
El Do County Dept. Of Ag. (in-kind)*	\$3,143.07
Regional Water Authority (in-kind)*	\$3,264.00
American River Conservancy (in-kind)*	\$2,400.00
Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District (in-kind)*	\$1,380.00
El Dorado County Resource Conservation District (in-kind)*	\$1,380.00
Non-Federal Subtotal	\$100,123.27
Other Federal Entities	
None	
Other Federal Subtotal	NA
REQUESTED RECLAMATION FUNDING	\$100,000.00
TOTAL STUDY FUNDING	\$200,123.27

2.2 Budget Proposal

The budget proposal summary is provided in the table below and is described in a narrative format below. All rates shown are assumed to be applicable for the duration of the project.

Table 4. Budget Proposal Summary

Budget Item Description	Computation			Local Funding	Reclamation Funding	Total Cost
	\$/Unit	Unit	Quantity			
Salaries and Wages						
El Dorado County Water Agency, General Manager	\$96.15	hour	100	\$9,615.00		\$9,615.00
El Dorado County Water Agency, Businesses Services Officer	\$49.90	hour	100	\$4,990.00		\$4,990.00
El Dorado Irrigation District, Engineering Director	\$119.00	hour	100	\$11,900.00		\$11,900.00
Grizzly Flats Community Service District, General Manager	\$39.42	hour	48	\$1,892.16		\$1,892.16
Eldorado National Forest, Natural Resource Staff Officer	\$46.75	hour	20	\$935.00		\$935.00
Eldorado National Forest, Hydrologist	\$35.98	hour	20	\$719.60		\$719.60
El Do County Dept. Of Ag., Commissioner	\$93.13	hour	27	\$2,514.51		\$2,514.51
Regional Water Authority, Manager of Technical	\$96.00	hour	24	\$2,304.00		\$2,304.00

Services						
American River Conservancy, Stewardship Coordinator	\$35.00	hour	48	\$1,680.00		\$1,680.00
Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District, General Manager	\$46.00	hour	20	\$920.00		\$920.00
El Dorado Resource Conservation District, General Manager	\$46.00	hour	20	\$920.00		\$920.00
Fringe Benefits						
El Dorado County Water Agency, General Manager	\$33.89	hour	100	\$3,389.00		\$3,389.00
El Dorado County Water Agency, Businesses Services Officer	\$25.08	hour	100	\$2,508.00		\$2,508.00
El Dorado Irrigation District, Engineering Director	\$51.00	hour	100	\$5,100.00		\$5,100.00
Grizzly Flats Community Service District, General Manager	\$8.58	hour	48	\$411.84		\$411.84
Eldorado National Forest, Natural Resource Staff Officer	\$15.03	hour	20	\$300.60		\$300.60
Eldorado National Forest, Hydrologist	\$14.75	hour	20	\$295.00		\$295.00
El Do County Dept. Of Ag., Commissioner	\$23.28	hour	27	\$628.56		\$628.56
Regional Water Authority, Manager of Technical Services	\$40.00	hour	24	\$960.00		\$960.00
American River Conservancy, Stewardship Coordinator	\$15.00	hour	48	\$720.00		\$720.00
Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District, General Manager	\$23.00	hour	20	\$460.00		\$460.00
El Dorado Resource Conservation District, General Manager	\$23.00	hour	20	\$460.00		\$460.00
Travel	NA					
Equipment	NA					
Supplies and Materials	NA					
Contractual/Construction	NA					
Consultant/Facilitator	\$146,500.00	each	1	\$46,500.00	\$100,000.00	\$146,500.00
Other	NA					
Total Direct Charges				\$100,123.27	\$100,000.00	\$200,123.27
Indirect Costs	NA					\$-
Total Estimated Project Cost						\$200,123.27

2.3 Budget Narrative

As further described in Section 1.3, Project Description of this application, the project will consist of the six primary tasks listed below. The budget narrative in this section is discussed with respect to these tasks.

- Task 1: Establish Drought Planning Task Force
- Task 2: Develop Detailed Work Plan
- Task 3: Develop Communication and Outreach Plan
- Task 4: Develop Draft Drought Contingency Plan
- Task 5: Prepare Final Drought Contingency Plan
- Task 6: Reclamation Agreement Management

2.3.1 Salaries and Wages

This section includes salaries and wages for the applicant (Water Agency) as well for those stakeholders that have committed in-kind hours to attend up to 12 Task Force meeting and to assist with development and review of the RDCP. The names of key personal are also provided. As these salaries and wages are being provided as local cost share only, we do not project the need to institute salary increases over the timeline of the project. The key staff associated with management and execution of the RDCP are listed below, along with their primary tasks.

Project Manager, Kenneth Payne, General Manager, El Dorado County Water Agency: Mr. Payne will act as the project manager for the development of RDCP and will assist with Task 1, Task 2, and Task 3. He will also manage the consultant hired to complete Task 4 and Task 5.

Tami Scowcroft, Business Services Officer, El Dorado County Water Agency: Ms. Scowcroft will act as the manager for the funding agreement for Reclamation. She will have sole responsibility for Task 6 and will assist with coordination of the consultant hired to complete Task 4 and Task 5. Ms. Scowcroft's responsibilities for overall management of the Water Agency's budget, planning and public relations; and the expectation that she will assist with coordinating Task Force meeting and provide input to development of the RDCP, are justifications for including her time as a direct cost to the project.

Brian Mueller, Engineering Director, El Dorado Irrigation District: Mr. Mueller will assist with Task 2, Task 4, and Task 5. He will participate on the Task Force and be the main point of contact for tasks involving EID infrastructure and data resources.

2.3.2 Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits for full time permanent employees and their families include medical insurance, vision insurance, dental insurance, retirement contributions, workers compensation, and a limited life insurance policy in some instances. The value of hourly fringe benefit will vary by the employee. The actual calculation for the hourly fringe benefit rate for each assigned employee is shown in the detailed Budget Proposal Summary table above.

2.3.3 Travel

No travel is assumed necessary for the project.

2.3.4 Equipment

No equipment will be purchased for the project.

2.3.5 Materials and Supplies

No supplies will be purchased for the project.

2.3.6 Contractual

The RDCP partners expect the majority of the work to be supported by contracted professional services from a highly experienced water resources consulting firm. Because the funding opportunity announcement requires that Reclamation review and approve a finalized work plan, we have not yet released a request for consulting services. This will be done in consultation with Reclamation upon final approval of the work plan.

Contracted services will include management and facilitation of Task Force meetings (Task 1), development of a detailed work plan (Task 2), input into the development of a communication and outreach plan (Task 3), support in collecting information for the required RDCP components (Task 4), and preparing a draft (Task 4) and final RDCP (Task 5). Based on the proposed work plan and our past experience in working with consulting services, we estimate that \$146,500 in consulting support will be required to support this regional effort.

2.3.7 Other Expenses

There are no other assumed costs for the project.

2.3.8 Indirect Costs

There are no assumed indirect costs for the project.

2.3.9 Total Costs

The total cost for the project is \$200,123.27 with \$100,000 in Federal share and \$100,123.27 in non-federal share.

3.0 REQUIRED PERMITS OR APPROVALS

There are no required permits or approval to develop the RDCP.

4.0 LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Attachment A includes eleven letters of support received to date for the process, including eight letters committing a total of 327 staff hours to participate in Task Force meetings and to assist with development and review of the RDCP. A letter of support from the following agencies and organizations is included in Appendix A:

1. American River Conservancy
2. El Dorado County Band of Miwok Indians, and Cosumnes Culture and WaterWays
3. El Dorado County Department of Agriculture
4. El Dorado County Resource Conservation District
5. El Dorado Irrigation District
6. Eldorado National Forest
7. Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
8. Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
9. Grizzly Flats Community Service District
10. Placer County Water Agency
11. Regional Water Authority

5.0 OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

The Water Agency will adopt an official resolution at its Board meeting scheduled for February 14, 2018. A draft of the resolution is included as **Attachment B** of this application. An original and copy of the signed resolution will be submitted to Reclamation upon its approval by the Water Agency Board of Directors.



January 25, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Subject: Funding Commitment for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of American River Conservancy (ARC), I am writing to support El Dorado County Water Agency's effort to develop a Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the upper American River Basin. The American River Conservancy serves our communities by ensuring healthy ecosystems within the Upper American River and Upper Cosumnes River watersheds through land conservation, stewardship and education. The land and water resources of the American River and Upper Cosumnes watersheds are diverse, including timber, agricultural, recreation, wildlife-related and rural and urban uses which merge together to form a complex mix of natural resource related opportunities and challenges. Building a plan to create and increase water supply resilience is important for both the human and natural ecosystems that depend on the watersheds.

To show our commitment to the project, our organization will commit a minimum of 48 staff hours over the two-year planning period, totaling approximately \$2,400 of in-kind match. The in-kind support would be in the form of ARC staff time spent participating in Drought Planning Task Force meetings and in time spent on assisting with the review and development of the drought plan. The cost-share is immediately available and will be in place for the duration of the project. There are no other constraints or contingencies associated with our cost share commitment.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elena DeLacy".

Elena DeLacy
Stewardship Director



Cosumnes Culture and Water Ways *Calling Back Culture*

January 26, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Subject: Support for the Upper American and Cosumnes River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project.

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of the El Dorado Band of Miwok Indians and Cosumnes Culture and Water Ways (CCaWW) a Native based non-profit 501c3 organization, I am writing to support El Dorado County Water Agency's effort to develop a Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the upper American and Cosumnes River Basins. The land and water resources of the American River and upper Cosumnes watersheds are diverse, cultural and sacred sites abound throughout the area, indigenous peoples inherent responsibilities to take care of the land and waterways and everything within it is of utmost importance to the tribe. In addition to the human benefits including timber, agricultural, recreation and rural and urban uses which merge together to form a complex mix of natural resource related opportunities and challenges.

CCaWW and the El Dorado Band of Miwok Indians welcomes the opportunity to work collaboratively with other water stakeholders in the region to identify and evaluate water supply reliability and drought resilience projects for the American and Cosumnes River Watersheds. We look forward to being active participants in the Drought Planning Task Force and throughout development of the Regional Drought Contingency Plan.

Sincerely

Kimberly Petree
Chair of the El Dorado Band of Miwok Indians
Executive Director of CCaWW



The County of El Dorado

Agriculture, Weights & Measures

311 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667-4197

Charlene Carveth
Agricultural Commissioner,
Sealer of Weights &
Measures

Phone (530) 621-5520
Fax (530) 626-4756
charlene.carveth@edcgov.us

January 26, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Subject: Funding Commitment for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project.

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of El Dorado County Agriculture Department, I am writing to support El Dorado County Water Agency's effort to develop a Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the upper American River Basin. The land and water resources of the American River and Upper Cosumnes watersheds are diverse, including timber, agricultural, recreation and rural and urban uses which merge together to form a complex mix of natural resource related opportunities and challenges.

To show our commitment to the project, our agency will commit to attending Drought Planning Task Force Meetings and continued attendance of Water Agency Meetings. A commitment of my time and possible staff hours totaling up to 28 hours over the two-year planning period, totaling approximately \$3,200 of in-kind match. The in-kind support would be in the form of staff time spent participating in Drought Planning Task Force meetings and in time spent on assisting with the review and development of the drought plan. The cost-share is immediately available and will be in place for the duration of the project. There are no other constraints or contingencies associated with our cost share commitment.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charlene Carveth".

Charlene Carveth,
Agricultural Commissioner, Sealer of Weights & Measures



El Dorado County Resource Conservation District & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
100 Forni Road, Suite A • Placerville, CA 95667 • Phone (530) 295-0120

January 22, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Subject: Funding Commitment for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project.

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of El Dorado County Resource Conservation District, I am writing to support El Dorado County Water Agency's effort to develop a Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the upper American River Basin. The land and water resources of the American River and Upper Consumes watersheds are diverse, including timber, agricultural, recreation and rural and urban uses which merge together to form a complex mix of natural resource related opportunities and challenges. Building a plan to create and increase water supply resilience is important for both the human and natural ecosystems that depend on the watersheds.

To show our commitment to the project, our agency will commit a minimum of 20 staff hours over the two-year planning period, totaling approximately \$1,380.00 of in-kind match. The in-kind support would be in the form of staff time spent participating in Drought Planning Task Force meetings and in time spent on assisting with the review and development of the drought plan. The cost-share is immediately available and will be in place for the duration of the project. There are no other constraints or contingencies associated with our cost share commitment.

Sincerely

Mark A. Egbert
District Manager

El Dorado County & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts
100 Forni Road, Suite A
Placerville, CA 95667

Mark.Egbert@ca.usda.gov

(O) 530-303-5328

(cell) 530-957-3472

www.eldoradorcd.org

www.georgetowndividercd.org



El Dorado Irrigation District

Letter No.: EEO2018-1993

January 29, 2018

VIA FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Subject: Funding Commitment for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought
Contingency Plan Project

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of El Dorado Irrigation District, I am writing to confirm our commitment and support of the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project. We understand that El Dorado County Water Agency (EDCWA) is acting as the lead grant applicant in our collaborative effort in seeking assistance for the proposed project.

To show our commitment to development of a regional drought contingency plan, our agency will commit a minimum of 100 staff hours over the two-year planning period, totaling approximately \$17,000 of in-kind match. The in-kind support would be in the form of staff time spent participating in Drought Planning Task Force meetings and in time spent on assisting with the review and development of the drought plan. The cost-share is immediately available and will be in place for the duration of the project. There are no other constraints or contingencies associated with our cost share commitment.

Sincerely,

Brian Mueller, P.E.
Director of Engineering
El Dorado Irrigation District

BM:lv

File Code: 2500
Date: January 29, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Subject: Funding Commitment for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project.

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of the Eldorado National Forest, I am writing to support El Dorado County Water Agency's effort to develop a Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the upper American River Basin. The land and water resources of the American River and Upper Cosumnes watersheds are diverse, including timber, agricultural, recreation and rural and urban uses which merge together to form a complex mix of natural resource related opportunities and challenges. Building a plan to create and increase water supply resilience is important for both the human and natural ecosystems that depend on the watersheds.

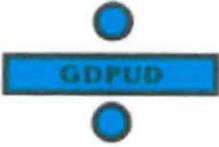
To show our commitment to the project, our agency will commit a minimum of 40 staff hours over the two-year planning period, totaling approximately \$2,250 of in-kind match. The in-kind support would be in the form of staff time spent participating in Drought Planning Task Force meetings and in time spent on assisting with the review and development of the drought plan. The cost-share is immediately available and will be in place for the duration of the project. There are no other constraints or contingencies associated with our cost share commitment.

Sincerely,



per
Laurence Crabtree
Forest Supervisor





January 24, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

**Subject: Support for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought
Contingency Plan Project.**

Dear Mr. Payne:

I am writing to support El Dorado County Water Agency's effort to develop a Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the upper American River Basin. Georgetown Divide Public Utility District (GDPUD) understands that El Dorado County Water Agency (EDCWA) is acting as the lead grant applicant in a collaborative effort seeking assistance for the proposed project.

GDPUD recognizes the value of drought contingency planning to avoid water supply crises in times of shortages and welcomes the opportunity to work collaboratively with other water stakeholders in the region to explore potential infrastructure improvements to increase water supply reliability for our service area. We look forward to being active participants in the Drought Planning Task Force and throughout development of the Regional Drought Contingency Plan.

Sincerely

Steven Palmer, PE
General Manager



El Dorado County Resource Conservation District & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
100 Forni Road, Suite A • Placerville, CA 95667 • Phone (530) 295-0120

January 22, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Subject: Funding Commitment for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project.

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of the Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District, I am writing to support El Dorado County Water Agency's effort to develop a Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the upper American River Basin. The land and water resources of the American River and Upper Consumes watersheds are diverse, including timber, agricultural, recreation and rural and urban uses which merge together to form a complex mix of natural resource related opportunities and challenges. Building a plan to create and increase water supply resilience is important for both the human and natural ecosystems that depend on the watersheds.

To show our commitment to the project, our agency will commit a minimum of 20 staff hours over the two-year planning period, totaling approximately \$1,380.00 of in-kind match. The in-kind support would be in the form of staff time spent participating in Drought Planning Task Force meetings and in time spent on assisting with the review and development of the drought plan. The cost-share is immediately available and will be in place for the duration of the project. There are no other constraints or contingencies associated with our cost share commitment.

Sincerely

Mark A. Egbert
District Manager

El Dorado County & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts
100 Forni Road, Suite A
Placerville, CA 95667

Mark.Egbert@ca.usda.gov

(O) 530-303-5328

(cell) 530-957-3472

www.eldoradorcd.org

www.georgetowndividercd.org

Grizzly Flats Community Services District

4765 Sciaroni Road / P.O. Box 250
Grizzly Flats, CA 95636
Ph: 530/622-9626 Fax: 530/622-4806
www.grizzlyflatscsd.com



January 24, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Subject: Funding Commitment for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project.

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of Grizzly Flats Community Services District, I am writing to confirm our commitment and support of the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project. We understand that El Dorado County Water Agency (EDCWA) is acting as the lead grant applicant in our collaborative effort in seeking assistance for the proposed project.

To show our commitment to development of regional drought contingency plan, our agency will commit a minimum of 48 staff hours over the two-year planning period, totaling approximately \$2,304.00 of in-kind match. The in-kind support would be in the form of staff time spent participating in Drought Planning Task Force meetings and in time spent on assisting with the review and development of the drought plan. The cost-share is immediately available and will be in place for the duration of the project. There are no other constraints or contingencies associated with our cost share commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jodi Lauther", is written over a large, stylized flourish that extends to the right.

Jodi Lauther
General Manager



February 5, 2018

Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

RE: Funding Commitment for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of the Placer County Water Agency, I am writing to confirm our support of the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan Project. We understand that El Dorado County Water Agency is acting as the lead grant applicant in a collaborative effort in seeking assistance for the proposed project.

Thank you for your commitment to the region and taking the lead on this important planning effort.

Sincerely,

R. Brent Smith
Director of Technical Services

RBS:sw

cc: Einar Maisch, PCWA General Manager
Andy Fecko, PCWA Director of Strategic Affairs

January 26, 2018



Kenneth V. Payne, P.E.
General Manager
El Dorado County Water Agency
4110 Business Drive, Suite B
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Marcus Yasutake,
Chair

Paul Schubert, Vice
Chair

Subject: Support for the Upper American River Basin Regional Drought Contingency
Plan Project

Members

California American Water
Carmichael Water District
Citrus Heights Water District
Del Paso Manor Water District
El Dorado Irrigation District
Elk Grove Water District
Fair Oaks Water District
Folsom, City of
Golden State Water Company
Lincoln, City of
Orange Vale Water Company
Placer County Water Agency
Rancho Murieta Community
Services District
Roseville, City of
Rio Linda / Elverta Community
Water District
Sacramento, City of
Sacramento County Water
Agency
Sacramento Suburban Water
District
San Juan Water District
West Sacramento, City of
Yuba City, City of

Dear Mr. Payne:

On behalf of the Regional Water Authority (RWA), I am writing this letter in support of El Dorado County Water Agency's efforts to launch a collaborative process to develop a Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the Upper American River Basin. A Regional Drought Contingency Plan for the upper American River Basin would complement and add continuity to the recently finalized (October 2017) North American Basin Regional Drought Contingency Plan (NAB RDCP), an effort supported by a Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Grant that brought together 17 water agencies in the lower American River Basin to evaluate water resource vulnerabilities and identify opportunities to improve long-term water supply reliability. RWA led the coordinated effort to develop the NAB RDCP and managed the Reclamation grant on behalf of the grantee, the Placer County Water Agency. A similar plan for the upper American River Basin could help increase coordination and communication among lower and upper water purveyors, reduce future water demand conflict, and identify mitigation measures that improve water reliability and resilience for both upstream and downstream users.

El Dorado County Water Agency has long been a partner in efforts to advance collaborative planning processes and RWA would look forward to participating as an advisor to EDCWA as the upper American River Basin planning process is implemented. As such, RWA can contribute 24 hours of staff support, over two years, totaling approximately \$3,264 of in-kind match. The in-kind support would be in the form of staff time attending planning meetings, and in assisting EDCWA with best practices associated with grant management and plan development processes. The cost-share is immediately available and will be in place for the duration of the project. There are no other constraints or contingencies associated with our cost share commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Swartz', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Robert J. Swartz
Manager of Technical Services

Associates

County of Placer
El Dorado County Water
Agency
Sacramento Municipal Utility
District
Sacramento Regional County
Sanitation District
Sacramento Area Flood
Control Agency

RESOLUTION NO. ____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EL DORADO COUNTY WATER
MANAGEMENT AGENCY AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE
THROUGH THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION’S WATERSMART DROUGHT
CONTINGENCY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (“Reclamation”) has implemented the WaterSMART Program to leverage Federal and non-Federal funding to support stakeholder efforts to stretch scarce water supplies and avoid conflicts over water;

WHEREAS, Reclamation has solicited proposals from organizations with water or power delivery authority for a new round of grant funding under the Fiscal Year 2018 WaterSMART Drought Response Program; Drought Contingency Planning , for which proposals are due on or before February 7, 2018;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of El Dorado County Water Agency (“EDCWA”) has identified itself as an eligible applicant under Reclamation’s WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, EDCWA is pursuing grant funding assistance under the WaterSMART Program in an amount of up to \$100,000 to prepare a regional Drought Contingency Plan for the Upper American River Basin – inclusive of the upper American River Watershed and upper Cosumnes River Watershed.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Directors as follows:

1. The Board has reviewed the scope and purpose of EDCWA’s funding application, finds that the Project will serve both the needs of water purveyors within the upper American River Basin and satisfy the goals of the WaterSMART Program, and, on that basis, supports staff’s submittal of the financial assistance application to Reclamation.
2. EDCWA is capable of funding the minimum 50-percent cost share required to obtain grant funding under the WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Grant Program. Collaborating agencies have verified their funding capability through letters of commitment included with the application.
3. The Board hereby ratifies the action of its General Manager, or his designee, of EDCWA in applying for financial assistance from Reclamation’s WaterSMART Program as part of a regional collaborative effort and authorizes the General Manager or his designee to execute any related documents, including a cooperative financial assistance agreement with Reclamation.
4. The General Manager and staff are directed to take all other actions necessary to secure funding for the Project under the WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Grant Program, including working with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative financial assistance agreement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of El Dorado County Water Agency on the Day of Month Year, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

By:

Attest: