

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 09/25/03
Department Name: Flood Control/Water
Agency/Public Works
Department No.: 054-04
Agenda Date: 10/14/03
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: N/A
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:
Document Name: BRDoct14.USGS.DOC

TO: Board of Directors
Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Santa Barbara County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

FROM: Phillip M. Demery
Public Works Director

STAFF CONTACT: Thomas Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, Ext. 3436
Matt Naftaly, Hydrologist, Ext. 3442

SUBJECT: **Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resources Investigations with the United States Geological Survey, All Supervisorial Districts**

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Directors:

Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to continue the cooperative streamgaging program from November 1, 2003 to October 31, 2004 at a cost to the Flood Control District of \$70,125 and to the Water Agency of \$182,085 for a total cost of \$252,210.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 5. A High Quality of Life for All Residents and with Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

This Joint Funding Agreement among the Flood Control District, the Water Agency, and the USGS will provide for a cooperative and cost sharing water resources program in Santa Barbara County. The program consists of a cooperative streamgaging program for all three agencies as well as groundwater monitoring and surface water quality monitoring for the Water Agency. The program is outlined in Attachment A and includes federal cost sharing and covers stations located throughout the County.

In recent years several agencies including federal, state, and local agencies along with landowners have developed the Lower Santa Ynez River Fish Management Plan (Plan). In addition, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a Biological Opinion (BO) on steelhead for operation of Cachuma Dam. Two years ago, new streamgage stations were added to provide baseline information to assess if the recommended target flows that were identified in the Plan and the BO are being implemented, and to determine if any changes need to be made to provide additional benefit to the endangered steelhead. Because these gages will be used to monitor steelhead

target flow rates rather than for flood flow purposed, full range monitoring will not be needed. The cost for monitoring these gages for this year is \$60,570. These costs will be paid from the monies allocated annually from the Water Agency budget for the Cachuma Project; therefore this will not change any of the Water Agency programs or budget.

The rest of the program is similar to past year's program. The full range monitoring that is provided by this program is used for the design of properly sized channels, storm drains, retardation basins, and delineation of flood hazard areas. Additionally, stream flow data continues to be very valuable for water supply and flood frequency studies for flood warning system simulation and operations.

Mandates and Service Levels:

There are no changes in programs or services level.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Costs for this program were included in the Adopted 2003/04 budget and allocated in the both the Water Agency and Administration Cost Centers under the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department as shown on page D-322 in the budget book. Costs will be paid from Flood Control, Dept: 054, Fund: 2400, Acct: 7460, Program: 3006 (\$70,125); Water Agency, Dept: 054, Fund: 3050, Acct: 7460, Programs: 3011 and 3012 (\$182,085).

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to return all four originals of the agreement along with a copy of the minute order to the Flood Control District office, Attn: Christina Lopez. After the agreement has been executed by the USGS, the District will return a fully executed original to the Clerk of the Board.

Concurrence: County Counsel, Auditor-Controller