WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF YOLO COUNTY
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN COMPLETION

ATTACHMENT 3 – WORK PLAN
SECTION B – WORK ITEMS

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The Yolo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) is the most comprehensive, proactive effort ever undertaken to plan for Yolo County’s water future. The IRWMP builds on previous water planning efforts, such as Yolo County’s first water plan in 1984, and the update in 1992. The 1992 update led to the formation of the Water Resources Association of Yolo County (WRA), created to facilitate implementation of the 1992 plan. The long-held objective of the 1992 water plan is to assure an adequate water supply – both in quantity and quality – for the people of Yolo County, present and future, in a manner that is efficient, economical, and environmentally sound.

The IRWMP builds on this long history, and the significant work of member agencies, but represents a more thoughtful collaborative effort on the part of the WRA than ever undertaken or considered before. The IRWMP will identify high priority water issues and solutions, as well as provide an implementation strategy. Through the IRWMP, the WRA also will seek opportunities for collaboration among agencies within Yolo County and neighboring regions and opportunities to integrate land use planning and water resource planning. The WRA recently completed the “Background Data and Information Appendix” to the IRWMP, the first step towards its completion. This section of the WRA’s proposal outlines the additional work necessary to complete the IRWMP.

Although the planning period for the IRWMP extends to 2025, the IRWMP focuses on guiding the water resources management activities of member agencies and the community for the next five to 10 years. The WRA Technical Committee will first review and update the goals and objectives for the IRWMP, as well as develop criteria to prioritize issues, opportunities, and projects as well. An important aspect of the WRA’s approach to preparing its IRWMP is to fully examine and integrate environmental and social issues concurrent with water resource planning rather than assessing them as an impact of the planning process.

The WRA’s overall schedule for performing the work and adopting the IRWMP is presented in Section C (Figure C-1).

Using the goals, objectives, and prioritization criteria, the WRA Technical Committee (composed of senior staff from all the member agencies) will prepare issue papers during the summer of 2005, in the five water resources management areas covered by the IRWMP: (1) water supply and drought preparedness, (2) water quality, (3) storm drainage and flood control, (4) aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement, and (5) recreation. The papers will identify and prioritize issues. The papers, along with the goals, objectives, and prioritization criteria, will then be presented to the general public for review and comment through four planned public meetings or workshops. The WRA expects that the public will identify additional water-related issues and opportunities, and that priorities could change as a result of information gathered during the public process.

Concurrent with the IRWMP process, member agencies will be performing work that are an integral part of the overall water resources planning and management efforts within Yolo County and will form the foundation for the IRWMP. In particular, the City of Davis with UCD, and the cities of Woodland and Winters will be updating their Urban Water Management Plans and the
Dunnigan Water District and the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (YCFCWCD) will be updating their Groundwater Management Plans to be in compliance with Section 10650 and Section 10750 of the California Water Code.

Based upon information obtained through the public process and additional research and analyses, the WRA Technical Committee will identify high priority issues and opportunities in each of the five resource management areas by March 2006. The WRA Technical Committee will further identify additional information needed to adequately identify and evaluate potential solutions. During 2006, the WRA Technical Committee will gather additional information and perform analyses needed to formulate projects to address high priority issues and opportunities. The WRA Technical Committee will further formulate projects to implement these solutions.

The WRA will finalize and adopt the IRWMP in December 2006. The IRWMP will identify water-related issues and potential solutions to those issues, prioritized on the basis of criteria applied equally to all programs and projects identified through this planning process. High priority projects will be developed sufficiently to identify the benefits, costs, and potential implementation constraints. The WRA will develop an implementation strategy to provide guidelines aimed at maximizing the opportunities for success. An agency or agencies from the WRA will sponsor each project, working individually or in partnership with member agencies or agencies in neighboring regions, depending upon beneficiaries of the project. It will be the responsibility of the respective agency(s) that sponsor each project to conduct any required CEQA and NEPA environmental analysis, advance its development, and manage its implementation. The WRA will continue to be the forum through which projects are discussed, coordinated, and potential partnership opportunities identified, including partnerships with neighboring counties or regions. While the IRWMP will only cover the region of Yolo County for purposes of this planning effort, many potential projects may have impacts on or require the involvement and participation of agencies from other regions.

The work items or tasks and activities presented herein and the resources presented in the budget (Section C) reflect the WRA’s commitment to this planning effort.

I. CONDUCT PUBLIC PROCESS AND OUTREACH

The WRA views public involvement and outreach as an essential element of the process to complete and implement the IRWMP because implementation of the IRWMP by its member agencies will require widespread community support. Accordingly, the WRA Technical Committee will conduct a public process and a public outreach effort, with the assistance of a professional facilitator. In addition, the WRA Technical Committee will seek assistance from the professional facilitator for internal facilitation needs, such as developing a cost-sharing model and selecting the public process structure that best fits the needs of the WRA.

A. Public Process

1. Develop and Implement Structure for Public Process

The WRA Technical Committee, with the assistance of a professional facilitator, will structure a public process suited to the needs of the IRWMP. The public
process will initially start with all individuals interested in the IRWMP gathered together for an introductory meeting during which the facilitator will review timelines, expectations, and ground rules. The goals and objectives prepared by the Technical Committee will also be presented for comment at this meeting. The process for conducting the public process is illustrated on Figure B-1.

To maximize public input, it is the intent, at the introductory meeting, to have individuals sign up for subgroup meetings in each of the five IRWMP resource management areas: (1) water supply; (2) water quality; (3) storm drainage and flood control; (4) aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement; and (5) recreation. The subgroups will meet regularly over the course of the year-long public process and will suggest changes and additions to the issue papers. The subgroups will reconvene as one large group at least twice during the year to discuss overlapping issues and opportunities for integration. The WRA Technical Committee will also encourage the subgroups to interact as necessary during the process to identify overlapping issues and opportunities for integration. The anticipated times for conducting public meetings or workshops are presented in Figure D-1 of Section D.

At various points throughout the process, the WRA Technical Committee will revise the issue papers to reflect the public’s input. The public process will be coordinated with the public outreach program.

2. **Identify Stakeholder Groups**

The WRA Board and Technical Committee will identify stakeholders and interested individuals that may wish to participate in the public process. The WRA will invite representatives of interested local, state, and federal government agencies to attend. Certain stakeholder groups may be disadvantaged communities. Special attention will be given to informing the communities of the potential or opportunities to resolve existing infrastructure problems and to be apprised on other projects that may be considered for implementation in nearby areas. Full consideration will be given to statewide concerns and interest regarding environmental justice.

3. **Prepare Media Communications and Information**

The WRA Technical Committee will prepare press releases and informational material as necessary to notify citizens about the public process.

**B. Public Outreach**

1. **Prepare Public Outreach Program**

The WRA Technical Committee will prepare a public outreach program to ensure effective communication with local interest groups and community organizations within Yolo County or neighboring regions. With the assistance of the facilitator, the WRA Technical Committee will update the WRA’s Website with information
and meeting timelines, develop a series of newsletters to update the public on progress, communicate regularly with representatives of the local media, and conduct additional public meetings, as necessary. The WRA Board and Technical Committee members will regularly meet with boards of local community organizations and interest groups to discuss the IRWMP.

2. **Identify Organizations**

The WRA Board and Technical Committee will identify local interest groups, community organizations, and local, state, and federal agencies that may be interested in learning more about the IRWMP. These organizations will receive e-mail updates and newsletters, as well as offers to receive updates on the IRWMP as presented by WRA Board or Technical Committee members.

3. **Conduct Presentations/Communications**

WRA Board and Technical Committee members will provide updates to interested organizations on IRWMP progress through formal and informal presentations.

C. **Review Goals and Objectives**

The goal and objectives for water management in Yolo County were first developed for the “Yolo County Water Plan – 1984.” The goal and objectives were subsequently modified within the framework of the “Yolo County Water Plan Update – 1992,” from which the WRA was established. These have been used as general guidelines for water planning up to now. The goal as stated below was adopted with the 1992 plan. Objectives 1 through 4 were adopted with the 1992 plan and the subsequent were identified by the Technical Committee. The latter reflect the comprehensive framework in which the WRA envisions water planning and management for the future of Yolo County. The goal and objectives are preliminary at this time. The public process will be utilized to formulate goals and objectives that will guide the work and formulation of the IRWMP.

The WRA Technical Committee further modified the goals and objectives as follows, and will seek additional input during the public process.

**Goal**

To assure an adequate water supply – both in quantity and quality – for the people of Yolo County, present and future, in a manner that is efficient, economical, and environmentally sound.

**Objectives**

1. To coordinate and conjunctively manage surface water and groundwater supplies available to Yolo County to avoid the potential adverse impacts from surface
water use and groundwater extraction (e.g., water quality, environmental degradation, and land subsidence).

2. To formulate a comprehensive water management, conservation, and reuse program for municipal, industrial, and agricultural water users.

3. To provide a mechanism or process that facilitates the rational treatment of proposals for importing water, for the intracounty transfer of water, and for the export of water.

4. To ensure open and frequent communication with the public.

5. To integrate water resource planning and land use planning.

6. To maximize the extent to which priority projects assist in meeting statewide priorities.

7. To assist disadvantaged communities on basic infrastructure improvements.

8. To assist in meeting TMDL’s being developed for mercury in the Cache Creek watershed.

9. To enhance the aquatic and riparian environment.

10. To utilize recycled water to the maximum extent possible.

11. To identify measures that can be implemented to reduce point-source and non-point source pollution.

12. To provide recreational opportunities without adversely impacting private property owners.

13. To provide adequate storm drainage and flood control for the citizens of Yolo County consistent with recommendations of the State’s Floodplain Management Task Force.

The goal and objectives noted above will be reviewed through the IRWMP public process. As a result of this process, the WRA Board may reaffirm, modify, or change the goals and objectives. The goals and objectives will guide the development of the IRWMP and the prioritization of water-related problems and solutions. The WRA Board will adopt final goals and objectives by November 2005.

During the summer of 2005, the WRA Technical Committee will develop prioritization criteria to determine which water-related problems in the County, are the highest priority. The WRA Technical Committee will also develop criteria for prioritizing projects designed to be part or all of the solution to the high priority problems. Prior to the start of the public process, the WRA Board will adopt draft prioritization criteria. During the initial stages of the public process, stakeholders will
review the prioritization criteria and offer comments. The WRA Board will adopt final prioritization criteria by November 2005.

D. **Review Water/Resources Management Planning and Implementation**

Water management planning activities have been underway at the local and regional level by WRA member agencies and other agencies as well. Summarized on Table B-1 are examples of the activities that have been completed or are underway within the region. To date, the majority of these activities have been conducted somewhat independently to address particular issues or areas of concern or responsibility. The plans will be reviewed and the status of implementation will be documented. Certain projects and programs that were identified may or may not have been implemented. Those projects that have not yet been implemented may be reevaluated or evaluated from a regional perspective to determine opportunities for multiple benefits. These projects will be considered and evaluated subject to the prioritization process discussed in Task VII.

E. **Review Issue Papers**

During the summer of 2005, the WRA Technical Committee will develop as a work product for Task V, papers in each of the five resource management areas covered by the IRWMP: (1) water supply and drought preparedness; (2) water quality; (3) storm drainage and flood control; (4) aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement; and (5) recreation. The WRA Technical Committee will use existing plans and reports and the IRWMP Background Data and Information Appendix as the foundation for the issue papers, and will consult with relevant community organizations and local, state, and federal agencies as necessary. The issues papers will summarize information that is known about water-related issues in each area, identify studies that have already been conducted in that area, and summarize potential solutions. The issue papers will provide the foundation for the public process and also for Task VI, “Formulate Water/Resources Management Projects.” The WRA Technical Committee will ask public process participants to review the issue papers and offer suggested changes and additions. The project team will conduct additional research, as necessary, to answer questions that arise during the summer of 2005 and the public process.

F. **Identify and Prioritize High Priority Issues and Opportunities**

In the spring of 2006 and in the context of the public process, the WRA Board and Technical Committee will identify high priority issues and opportunities in each resource management area. The WRA Technical Committee also will identify additional information that is needed to identify potential solutions to these selected issues. Problems and opportunities will be prioritized based upon the criteria adopted by the WRA Board.
II. DEVELOP PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

A. Issues and Opportunities

The resource management problems and opportunities identified through the WRA’s collaborative and public process will no doubt be extensive. The WRA will develop criteria to prioritize them in order that resources can be directed to those regarded as high priority.

B. Programs and Projects

Similarly, implementing programs and programs to resolve or fulfill high priority problems and opportunities will, of necessity, require the orderly management of available financial and institutional resources. Accordingly, a methodology for ranking or prioritizing the respective programs and projects will be developed to ensure the most effective use of the resources available. The methodology will be developed by the Technical Committee and finalized through the public involvement process. The methodology will include consideration of the goals and objectives established for the IRWMP; economic, financial, and environmental feasibility; environmental impacts; institutional willingness and readiness for implementation; potential resources; community and regional benefits; consistency with IRWMP standards; and consistency with IRWM grant program objectives and preferences. The expertise of a resource economist will be involved in developing the framework for analyzing the benefits of the proposed projects.

C. Technical Memorandum

The results of the work performed for this task will be presented in a Technical Memorandum entitled, “Yolo County IRWMP, Prioritization Criteria,” and submitted to DWR.

III. INTEGRATE WATER AND LAND USE PLANNING

In an effort to better integrate water resources planning and land use planning, the WRA Technical Committee will work with the cities, water districts, and the County of Yolo to integrate the IRWMP with the City and County General Plans. In addition, the WRA Technical Committee will develop recommended water-related policies for Yolo County’s General Plan, undergoing its first update in over 20 years in 2005-2006. The Yolo County Board of Supervisors and the Yolo County Planning and Public Works Department, managing the General Plan Update, have agreed to consider including these recommended policies in the Yolo County General Plan.

A. Evaluate General Plan Land Use – 2025

When the Yolo County Board of Supervisors selects an alternative for its General Plan Update and issues a draft General Plan in the summer of 2005, the WRA Technical Committee will use this information and information from the cities General Plans to assess water and wastewater needs, storm drainage and flood control
opportunities and challenges, and recreational opportunities. The WRA Technical Committee will work with local land-use planning officials to gather this information.

B. Develop Water-Related Policies for City General Plans and the Yolo County General Plan

Including water-related policies in the General Plan will highlight the value of water resources in Yolo County and help coordinate infrastructure and other capital projects for all member agencies. It will also lead to more public access to information about water resources and water policies than is possible with just the IRWMP. The recommended policies will include data, goals, objectives, and policies for various aspects of the hydrologic cycle, including water supply availability, water quality, wastewater treatment, watershed management, flood management, and the enhancement of aquatic and riparian ecosystems. The recommended policies could, for example, emphasize the need for adequate supplies for urban, environmental, and agricultural needs, protection of surface water resources, protection of water quality, and the need to conjunctively manage groundwater and surface water. The WRA Technical Committee will consult the guidelines for water-related General Plan policies offered by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, as well as local planning officials, during this process.

C. Water Use

Where appropriate, water use data and information will be compiled and presented consistent with the planning subareas defined in Task V. Information on water use that may be needed to formulate and evaluate projects for the IRWMP will be obtained from the IRWMP Background Data and Information Appendix. Additional analyses will be performed consistent with projects that may be identified to support municipal, agricultural, environmental, and recreational uses. Similar to the analysis of land use discussed above, the IGSM modeling effort will involve the development of water use information consistent with the needs defined by the County and City General Plans. The water use information required to complete the IRWMP will be coordinated with the IGSM effort.

Water use, both quantity and quality, will be addressed in terms of applied water, consumptive use, and excess applied water or return flow. The IGSM effort will develop water use (quantity) required for the model. Data for the model will be developed for the historical period of 1970-2004. The Yolo County IRWMP will work closely with this effort to evaluate historical water use patterns and to project water use for the future period of 2005-2025. Water use will be compiled for the following categories of uses: municipal and industrial, domestic, agricultural, environmental, and recreational. Information from the General Plan in relation to population and land use will be used to characterize the spatial and temporal distribution of water use.
1. **Municipal and Industrial**

Municipal and industrial water use data and information will be developed with respective public works/utility departments of the cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland, the University of California, and water purveyors for the unincorporated communities. This information will be coordinated with the general plans of the County, cities, and communities to ensure a compatible forecast of land and water use within the County.

2. **Domestic**

Domestic water use relates to the water use of rural households and farmsteads. Although domestic water use is not as geographic-specific as municipal water use, the estimates of domestic water use will be compiled in relation to the planning for use in subsequent projects formulation and evaluation.

3. **Agricultural**

Agricultural water use will be evaluated using information from the Agricultural Commissioner’s office and DWR’s land use surveys. This information will be compiled according to the respective agricultural water purveyors and potentially sub-areas within or adjacent to the respective purveyors’ jurisdictions for use in subsequent projects’ formulation and evaluation.

4. **Environmental**

The high priority aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement opportunities identified in Task IV., will determine the amount of additional water needed for environmental purposes. No effort has been devoted to development of a countywide plan for aquatic ecosystem enhancement until now.

5. **Recreation**

The high priority recreational opportunities identified in Task I.F., will determine the amount of additional water needs for recreational purposes. No countywide plan for water-related recreational opportunities existed prior to development of the IRWMP.

D. **Technical Memorandum**

The data and information compiled and the results of analyses performed for this task will be summarized in a Technical Memorandum entitled, “Yolo County IRWMP, Land and Water Use: 2005-2025,” and submitted to DWR.
IV. IDENTIFY AND INVESTIGATE RESOURCE ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The WRA in its effort to identify resource issues and opportunities will treat the five water resources management areas equally at the onset. Accordingly, all programs and projects identified in Task V. will be subject to the same prioritization criteria.

A. Water Supply

1. Surface Water

The WRA Technical Committee will obtain information from a quantitative and reliability standpoint on surface water supplies that may be needed to formulate and evaluate projects for the IRWMP from the IRWMP Background Data and Information Appendix. The WRA Technical Committee will perform additional analyses consistent with projects that may be identified to support municipal, agricultural, environmental, and recreational uses.

Although not addressed in the Background Data and Information Appendix, an important aspect of this work will relate to the infrastructure required to provide water supplies. The efficiency and reliability of the infrastructure is equally important to ensure future water supplies.

2. Groundwater

The groundwater resources will be addressed for the Yolo County region and for subbasins within Yolo County, as shown on Map B-1. Additional analysis of groundwater supplies will be completed as needed to better define groundwater management opportunities for meeting the IRWMP goals and objectives, such as projects with available surface water supplies to improve water supply reliability and flexibility. The work required to complete the additional analyses will involve the following elements:

a. Groundwater Monitoring

The YCFCWCD recently completed and initiated, through the WRA, a comprehensive groundwater monitoring program for Yolo County with the participation of WRA members, DWR, and the USGS. Groundwater data, both water level and quality, will be available through this program. This program will be evaluated in conjunction with the programs and projects developed as part of the IRWMP to determine if the monitoring network or program should be modified to support implementation.
b. **Groundwater Model**

YCFCWCD initiated preparing a Yolo County Integrated Groundwater Surface Water Model with the support of funding obtained from Local Groundwater Assistance Program administered by DWR. The development of the model will be an integral part of the IRWMP process and serve as an analytical tool for formulating and evaluating conjunctive use projects and drought preparedness planning as well.

c. **Land Subsidence**

Member agencies of the WRA have implemented a land subsidence monitoring program. The baseline network and reference benchmarks were established in 1999. A network survey was performed in 2002, and another survey is scheduled for 2005.

3. **Recycled Water**

Municipal wastewater represents a significant “firm” water supply. Municipal wastewater will be quantified and characterized under Task IV.B. The regulatory and public health aspects of utilizing recycled water and evidence of successful application in other areas of California will be documented.

B. **Water Quality**

1. **Point Source**

Wastewater as used herein refers to municipal wastewater. Historical data and information on wastewater disposal will be compiled and evaluated for the cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland, the University of California, the communities of Esparto and Madison, and the Caltrans rest areas near the Town of Dunnigan. Future wastewater projections will be developed in coordination with the respective cities and communities noted as well as communities for which new wastewater collection systems may be proposed, such as for the Town of Dunnigan.

2. **Non-Point Source**

An important part of this task is the compilation and review of data and information available currently and in the future through two important programs. These include: (1) the agricultural waiver coalition for the Sacramento Valley of which Yolo County is an active participant, and (2) the groundwater quality monitoring program recently implemented by the YCFCWCD and member agencies to address water quality outside the urbanized areas. Attention will be given to determining the most effective manner in which IRWMP programs and projects may interact with the existing efforts.
The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is in the process of establishing TMDL’s for mercury in Cache Creek. Yolo County interests have been actively involved in this process and will continue to be in the future. The TMDL’s could be an important factor in projects that may be identified to resolve resource issues.

C. Storm Drainage/Flood Hazards

1. Determine Existing and Potential Hazards

Various reports, including FEMA FIRMs, are available to identify existing storm drainage/flood hazards including the communities of Esparto and Madison, the West Plainfield area, the City of Woodland, and the Town of Yolo. This information will be compiled and a comprehensive storm drainage/flood hazards map will be prepared. This information will be confirmed and augmented with information obtained through the public involvement process. Documented deficiencies in both natural and man-made facilities will be identified and described, to the extent the information allows, in terms of potential property damage frequency of recurrence. Through efforts of the Yolo County Floodplain Management Working Group, a map was prepared in 1997 that identifies reaches or sections of the road system in Yolo County that are subject to flooding. This map will be updated through coordination with the departments of public works for the cities and the County.

2. Evaluate Emergency Preparedness Programs

Emergency preparedness programs of entities having facilities and/or a responsibility for flood control will be compiled and evaluated in terms of adequacy and response readiness. The entities to be contacted in regard to emergency preparedness programs include the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services, the cities protected by levees, and the YCFCWCD.

3. Determine Potential Damages

The potential damages to property within flood-prone areas will be quantified to the extent information is available. This information may be used in subsequent analyses to assess the feasibility of various mitigation measures.

4. Evaluate Proposed and Potential Mitigation Measures

Various flood mitigation measures have been identified and evaluated in previous work. This information will be compiled and updated along with measures that may be identified to mitigate newly identified hazards.
D. **Aquatic and Riparian Ecosystem Enhancement**

1. **Determine Existing Aquatic and Riparian Ecosystem Enhancement Opportunities**

   Through the development of the aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement issue paper and the public process, the WRA Technical Committee will identify enhancement issues and opportunities in Yolo County. The WRA Technical Committee will recommend studies as necessary to fill in data and information gaps related to these issues. The issue paper will build on the first countywide evaluation of environmental water resources, included as Chapter 6 of the IRWMP Background Data and Information Appendix. The evaluation is necessarily only a starting point and it may be revised as the WRA learns more about Yolo County’s environmental water resources through the development of the IRWMP and the public process associated with it.

2. **Coordinate With the Yolo County HCP/NCCP Joint Powers Authority**

   The Yolo County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan Joint Powers Authority (JPA) is in the process of developing a regional program (called a “Natural Community Conservation Plan” or NCCP) that mitigates for the loss of habitat for 26 endangered and threatened species caused by urban development in Yolo County. Staff from the JPA will participate in the public process, will advise the WRA during the initial drafting of the aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement issue paper, and will help ensure that the NCCP and the IRWMP are consistent. In addition, the JPA will allow the WRA to use its biological assessment and accompanying Geographic Information System tool for the aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement component, developed under a federal grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The JPA is scheduled to finish the NCCP approximately a year after the completion of the IRWMP.

3. **Coordinate With the CALFED Bay-Delta Authority and Other State and Federal Agencies**

   To ensure consistency with state and federal priorities, the WRA will consult with numerous state and federal agencies during the development of the aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement issue paper and throughout the development of the IRWMP. Specifically, the WRA will consult with the CALFED Bay-Delta Authority, the California Department of Water Resources, the California Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
E. **Recreation**

To identify recreation opportunities, the WRA will first undertake a countywide evaluation of water-related recreational uses and opportunities. No countywide evaluation of existing water-related recreational uses and opportunities has thus far been completed in Yolo County. Local entities have started to discuss completing such an evaluation in recent years, however, because of an interest in collaborative recreational opportunities. In addition, individual jurisdictions in Yolo County have created their own recreational plans, such as:

- The cities of West Sacramento and Sacramento, along with Yolo County and Sacramento County, have developed a Riverfront Master Plan to provide additional opportunities for the public to live and work along the Sacramento River. While the plan includes development along the river, it also provides for significant recreational opportunities and public spaces.

- The County of Yolo recently released a draft of the 2005 Parks and Open Space Master Plan, which establishes policies and strategies for the management, use, and future development of a variety of Yolo County parks, including parks along Cache Creek and Putah Creek. Existing water-related recreational opportunities that utilize Yolo County parks include hiking, fishing, rafting, non-motorized boating, swimming, and camping.

- As a result of increasing recognition of the impacts of gravel mining on Cache Creek’s aquatic ecosystems, in 1996 Yolo County adopted the Cache Creek Resource Management Plan (CCRMP) and its companion document, the Off-Channel Mining Plan (OCMP). Through these two plans, gravel companies will dedicate to Yolo County land formerly used for mining over time. Yolo County and the gravel companies will then enhance the property to allow agriculture, wildlife habitat, or recreation – including fishing and non-motorized boating.

- The Open Space and Recreation Element of Yolo County’s General Plan was updated and adopted in 2002. It contains policies to encourage the preservation of open space and expand recreational opportunities.

- Other existing recreational opportunities in Yolo County include wildlife viewing and other activities offered by the Cache Creek Conservancy, the Putah Creek Reserve managed by the University of California at Davis, wildlife viewing opportunities offered by the Yolo Basin Foundation, and duck hunting opportunities in the Yolo Bypass.

The IRWMP will have the first-ever evaluation of existing recreational opportunities and identify gaps in existing planning processes. The evaluation will also identify constraints based upon the concerns of private landowners and other stakeholders through the public process.
F. **Issues and Opportunities (Issue Papers)**

Using the results from evaluation and analysis of data and information compiled through the work described above, the Technical Committee will prepare issue papers that will serve to highlight problems as well as opportunities to be addressed in formulating the IRWMP. The papers will be prepared to focus discussion and analyses to guide water and resources management efforts in the following areas:

- Water Supply and Drought Preparedness
- Water Quality
- Storm Drainage and Flood Control
- Aquatic and Riparian Ecosystem Enhancement
- Recreation

These papers will provide the framework for the Technical Committee to coordinate its work and involve the public in identifying and prioritizing potential solutions.

G. **Technical Memorandum**

The results of the work performed under this task provide a foundation for identifying and directing resources in the future. The data and information evaluated, research and analyses performed, and the results will be presented in a Technical Memorandum entitled, “Yolo County IRWMP, Resources Issues and Opportunities.” The issue papers discussed above will be presented in this Technical Memorandum and submitted to DWR.

V. **FORMULATE WATER/RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

Once the WRA Board and Technical Committee identify the high priority issues and opportunities, as well as gather the necessary information to evaluate potential solutions, the WRA Technical Committee will formulate project(s) to resolve the issues. Cities, the County, or other organizations may have already identified problems and potential projects to solve them, so the status and level of definition of the respective projects will be quite variable. The IRWMP process will provide an opportunity to obtain broad public exposure of the respective projects and a more comprehensive assessment.

A. **Water Supply and Drought Preparedness**

1. **Municipal and Industrial**

A comprehensive plan to meet the water needs of the cities and communities within Yolo County will be formulated to meet the water needs through 2025. The results of planning and feasibility studies performed by the cities of Davis and Woodland and the University of California will be examined in the context of a comprehensive water supply plan for the County. To the extent other alternatives or complementary projects may be identified, they will be evaluated as well. Consideration has been given to providing the communities of Esparto and
Madison with a surface water supply to enhance the reliability in quantity and quality, and fire protection for the future. Similarly, consideration has been given to developing a community water supply system for the Town of Dunnigan, which currently is served entirely with individual wells.

2. **Domestic**

Domestic water supplies in the rural areas are generally provided by shallow wells. Under extended dry periods, periods which are more severe in both the amount of precipitation and duration, domestic wells could be adversely impacted. This could also occur in an area where it may be appropriate to consider operating the groundwater basin in a manner different than what has occurred historically. The reliability of water supplies for domestic use may be affected more by the construction and depth of existing wells rather than supply and will be addressed as part of the IRWMP. To the extent the data is available; the relative depths of domestic wells will be identified.

3. **Agricultural**

Yolo County, from an agricultural perspective, is near build-out except for the Dunnigan Hills soil and climatic conditions are favorable for producing wine grapes and other crops. Maintaining and making more efficient use of existing supplies will be at the forefront of the analyses to be performed for this IRWMP. Various conjunctive use projects have been considered by the YCFCWCD to enhance the water supply for agricultural use in terms of quantity and reliability. The IGSM that the YCFCWCD is developing will focus on the vicinity of Cache Creek for the specific purpose of evaluating the opportunity for developing supplemental water supplies. The Yolo-Zamora Water District, parts of which have experienced over five feet of land subsidence, has been the focus of studies for providing supplemental surface water supplies.

4. **Aquatic and Riparian Ecosystem Enhancement**

More research about the benefits to plants, wildlife, and fish for enhancing habitat in and along Yolo County’s waterways has increased the desire of some people to identify aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement opportunities. Enhancing the aquatic and riparian environment may require additional water or may require improved water management. While Yolo County’s water resources are almost fully utilized, opportunities for improved water management exist. Such opportunities include conjunctive use projects that will make more water available for the environment while maintaining the current supply of water for agriculture and cities. The IRWMP will evaluate these opportunities and recommend potential projects (or studies that will further project selection) that improve water management in ways that benefit the aquatic and riparian environment.
5. **Recreation**

The IRWMP will identify opportunities to enhance recreational opportunities in and along Yolo County’s waterways, such as rafting and duck hunting, through improved water management or the allocation of additional water.

6. **Drought Preparedness**

In spite of all efforts to improve the reliability of water supplies for all beneficial uses, there will be times when there are insufficient water supplies to meet all needs without imposing adverse impacts to people, resources, infrastructure, or the environment. As with any emergency, the adverse impacts can be minimized or avoided by preparedness planning. Alternative management scenarios will be identified and evaluated in the process of preparing a drought preparedness plan as part of the IRWMP.

B. **Water Quality**

Water quality and the management thereof are dealt with from the standpoint of “Point” and “Non-point” sources. Point sources are generally related to the wastewater discharge of cities and communities while non-point sources generally relate to storm runoff and agricultural drainage from watershed areas. Both sources of water quality management will be dealt with as described below.

1. **Point Source**

The discharge of municipal wastewater is a pending issue for most cities and communities in Yolo County. Management of the various wastewater discharges to resolve issues related to current discharges provides the opportunity for a very reliable water supply for some uses. The opportunities to reclaim wastewater from the cities of Davis and Woodland, the University of California, and the communities of Esparto and Madison will be examined fully. The issues associated with the discharge of wastewater from the cities of Davis and Woodland may be mitigated through an integrated water supply–wastewater reclamation project. The potential for utilizing reclaimed wastewater to enhance the water supply reliability for beneficial uses and comply with wastewater discharge requirements will be identified and evaluated.

2. **Non-Point Source**

The Yolo County Farm Bureau and the YCFCWCD, as part of an “Agricultural Waiver Program” of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, have been actively leading a coalition of farmers in Yolo County and coordinating with similar efforts in the Sacramento Valley. The IRWMP provides an opportunity to integrate the management of irrigation, drainage, and environmental resources for the collective benefit of the community.
C. **Storm Drainage and Flood Control**

1. **Storm Drainage/Flood Control Criteria**

   The storm drainage manual for Yolo County will be updated to reflect current standards and to be compatible with criteria adopted for use by the urban areas within the County. Criteria and Best Management Practices for effective storm water quality management will be incorporated into the manual. A component of this task is to update the depth-frequency-duration analysis for Yolo County, to include rainfall data subsequent to 1980.

2. **Cache Creek**

   Alternatives for providing flood protection to the City of Woodland, the Town of Yolo, and adjacent agricultural property have been the subject of a recent feasibility study performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in cooperation with the City of Woodland. Currently, however, there is no solution that is acceptable to the community. Issues and concerns for providing flood control will be identified and evaluated.

3. **Putah Creek**

   A solution to resolve storm drainage and flooding for the City of Winters involves diverting storm drainage to Putah Creek. Also, diverting floodwater to Putah Creek was proposed as a feature of a proposed project to mitigate flooding in the West Plainfield area. Although diverting water from Dry Slough to Putah Creek was a component of a project investigated by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1996, the lapse of time necessitates a reevaluation of the project. Accordingly, diverting floodwater to Putah Creek will be evaluated for the City of Winters in conjunction with any other project that may be appropriate to alleviate the risk of flooding.

4. **Sacramento River**

   Deficiencies with the right bank Sacramento River levees along the reach form the Fremont Weir to the Sacramento Weir have been identified through work performed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. These deficiencies will be examined in the context of the Yolo County/Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) Lower Sacramento River Collaborative, a proposed locally-driven, regional collaborative process to explore flood control, aquatic and riparian enhancement, and farming improvement opportunities along the Lower Sacramento River.
5. **Colusa Basin Drain**

Flooding along the Colusa Basin Drain in the Yolo-Zamora area of Yolo County has been exacerbated by land subsidence. Work will be coordinated with the coalition that is investigating the merits of directing all water from the Colusa Basin Drain through the Yolo Bypass and the efforts of the Yolo County/SAFCA Lower Sacramento River Collaborative as noted above to ensure that the impacts to flooding along the Colusa Basin Drain are addressed.

6. **Yolo Bypass**

Both Yolo County and SAFCA desire flood control improvements to the Yolo Bypass, which will be explored through the Yolo County/SAFCA Lower Sacramento River Collaborative. In addition, SAFCA and Yolo County will explore aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement and farming improvement opportunities that are consistent with flood control through this process.

7. **Willow Slough**

Willow Slough and tributaries to Willow Slough including the South Fork Willow Slough and Lamb Valley Slough near the towns of Madison and Esparto will be evaluated to mitigate existing flooding and to mitigate impacts that may be associated with potential urban growth identified in the County’s General Plan. This work will be coordinated with Caltrans’ work associated with its safety improvement project on the reach of Highway 16 between Esparto and Interstate 505. To the extent other problems of flooding are identified throughout the lower reach of Willow Slough, including the Willow Slough Bypass, these areas will be evaluated also.

8. **Dry Slough**

Flood problems associated with Dry Slough will be evaluated. This will include the diversion from Dry Slough to Putah Creek to mitigate flooding in the West Plainfield area and the North Davis area.

9. **Emergency Preparedness**

To the extent deficiencies are identified in the emergency preparedness plans compiled under Task IX.C., measures will be identified to enhance the respective programs.

D. **Aquatic and Riparian Ecosystem Enhancement**

While there are many organizations, local government entities, and federal and state agencies working in Yolo County to enhance the aquatic and riparian environment, there has never been an effort to identify countywide priorities. The IRWMP will build on all of the efforts of existing organizations, describe gaps in efforts, and identify constraints to aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement stemming from...
the concerns of private landowners and other stakeholders. After a comprehensive public process during which a professional facilitator will moderate discussions about aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement opportunities, the IRWMP will develop a countywide aquatic and riparian ecosystem enhancement strategy. The strategy will contain a list of studies that need to be completed to better understand opportunities and potential impacts on third parties, as well as a prioritized list of opportunities to pursue. As stated earlier in this document, the WRA will coordinate closely with the Yolo County HCP/NCCP Joint Powers Authority. The JPA and the WRA will work to develop the aquatic and riparian ecosystem components of the HCP/NCCP and the IRWMP simultaneously.

E. Recreation

The IRWMP will build on all of the efforts of existing organizations to identify water-related recreational opportunities, describe gaps in efforts, and identify constraints to expanding water-related recreational opportunities stemming from the concerns of private landowners and other stakeholders. After a lengthy public process, the IRWMP will propose a countywide water-related recreation strategy. The strategy will contain a list of studies that need to be completed to better understand opportunities and potential impacts on third parties, as well as a prioritized list of opportunities to pursue.

F. Technical Memorandum

The results of the evaluations and analyses performed to identify and develop projects to resolve priority issues and opportunities will be presented in a Technical Memorandum entitled, “Yolo County IRWMP, Water/Resources Management Projects to Address Priority Issues and Opportunities,” and submitted to DWR.

VI. FORMULATE IRWMP

A. Prioritize Projects

The WRA will evaluate the programs and projects formulated under Task VII. in relation to the prioritization criteria developed above. From this evaluation, the WRA will develop an implementation schedule that represents the plan for advancing the management of water and other resources to fulfill the established goals and objectives for the region. Implementing the respective projects will generally involve one or more of the WRA member agencies individually or together, and compliance with CEQA and (if necessary) NEPA will be an integral component of the implementation process. The willingness and readiness of the various agencies to implement the work will have been assessed in the prioritization process.
B. **Identify Integration Opportunities**

With the projects developed from the work in Task V., the objective of this task is to determine if projects can be combined or modified to function more effectively as a multiple purpose project. The WRA Technical Committee will develop a list of potential projects that appear to warrant integration. This list will be reviewed by the member agencies and other potential partners. The Technical Committee will apply the prioritization criteria to determine if relative improvements are gained by integrating projects. Where integration shows measured improvement, the strategy for implementation will be addressed along with other projects under Task VII.C.

C. **Develop Implementation Strategy**

The IRWMP is only as effective as its implementation. Accordingly, the WRA regards an implementation strategy as an essential part of developing the IRWMP. Similarly, the public involvement and stakeholder process is viewed as a critical element for obtaining widespread support for implementation of plan. In the process of formulating the IRWMP, member agencies, individually or in partnership, accept responsibility for implementing particular programs and projects. Nevertheless, the WRA must develop an implementation strategy as the number, scope, and magnitude of the programs and projects comprising the IRWMP will be greater than any program implemented by the member agencies. Accordingly, the WRA will formulate an implementation strategy with consideration given to the factors described below.

1. **Evaluate Institutional Arrangements and Partnerships**

As noted above, certain programs and projects may be implemented by individual agencies; however, others may require a partnership or joint participation by multiple agencies. Depending upon the type of project and size, both physically and financially, the legal arrangement may be different. Whether a Memorandum of Understanding, a Joint Powers Agreement, or another instrument is most appropriate, will be evaluated on a project-specific basis. The most appropriate arrangement will be developed by the agency or agencies responsible for the project.

2. **Evaluate Funding Options**

The IRWMP will include projects ranging from municipal and agricultural water supply projects, flood control, ecosystem restoration, etc. Similarly, a variety of funding options will need to be considered. The funding options may include bond measures, special assessments, federal and state grant and loan programs, and other funding instruments. The WRA is interested in pursing an implementation grant under Round 2 of the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program authorized under Proposition 50, Chapter 8.
3. **Determine Advanced Planning and/or Engineering**

The programs and projects that have been identified as having a high priority will be the subject of advance planning and/or engineering depending upon the type of project. An ecosystem restoration program may require additional planning and investigation before implementing. On the other hand, a water supply project may require preparing construction plans and specifications for implementation. It is the purpose of this activity to determine the scope of the advanced work and schedule for performing the work to implement each of the projects. Those projects that are identified for inclusion in a proposal for funding under Round 2 of the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program will require aggressive work programs to be competitively represented in the proposal. The submittal for Step 1 is anticipated for early December 2006.

4. **Evaluate Environmental Compliance**

As discussed in more detail in Section A, CEQA and potentially NEPA compliance will be required for implementing the majority of the projects included in the IRWMP. The IRWMP will evaluate whether a programmatic environmental review process is appropriate for some or all of the projects discussed therein. Regardless of whether a programmatic process is appropriate, however, certain project-specific environmental reviews will likely be required prior to agency approval of the respective projects. As discussed in Section A, the IRWMP will include an initial assessment of the level of environmental reviews that individual projects will have to undergo pursuant to CEQA and possibly NEPA. Important, the agency (or agencies) responsible for approving and implementing particular projects will be responsible for all CEQA and NEPA compliance efforts associated with such projects.

5. **Evaluate Regulatory Compliance**

Regulatory compliance pertaining to implementing the IRWMP relates to the permits that are required for specific project implementation. These can involve federal and state agencies including the: California Department of Fish and Game, Regional Water Quality Control Board, State Water Resources Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, etc. The permit requirements for each of the projects will be identified.

D. **Draft Report**

A draft report will be prepared that documents the work and public involvement and stakeholder process conducted in formulating the IRWMP. The draft report will be distributed for review and comment by the public and federal, state, and local agencies and special interest groups. The draft report will be available on the WRA Web site and hard copies as well as electronic copies will be available. In addition, a public meeting will be held to receive comments on the draft report.
E. Final Report

Upon receipt of review comments and conducting the public meeting, comments will be reviewed and responses will be prepared and incorporated into the final report and will represent a part of the formal documentation of the public involvement and stakeholder process. The final report will be available on the WRA Web site and hard copies as well as electronic copies will be available.

The final report will be the final work product submitted to DWR.

VII. ADOPT IRWMP

A. Member Agencies Review and Adoption

Before the WRA Board will take action to adopt the IRWMP, it will have to have been adopted by the respective boards and councils of member agencies. Adoption of the plan by member agencies will be an acknowledgment of their acceptance of the Plan but, more importantly, their commitment to implement particular programs or projects and to also support member agencies in implementing their programs and projects.

B. WRA Board Review and Adoption

With adoption of the IRWMP by member agencies, the WRA Board will take action to formally adopt the IRWMP. Formal adoption of the IRWMP will be essential documentation for pursuing funding through grant and/or loan programs administered by DWR.

VIII. PERFORM PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

A. WRA Coordination

The WRA is composed of entities authorized to purvey water in Yolo County, including: Yolo County; the cities of Davis, Winters, and Woodland; the University of California at Davis; Dunnigan Water District; and the YCFCWCD (Map B-1). Other agencies authorized to purvey water are welcome to join and coordinate programs and projects with member agencies.

The WRA Technical Committee will lead efforts to complete the IRWMP with guidance from the WRA Board of Directors. The WRA Technical Committee will meet monthly, at a minimum, and will meet more frequently as necessary.

The WRA Board will meet quarterly to receive updates on the development of the IRWMP and provide guidance. Meetings of the Board may be scheduled more frequently, if necessary.

Presented on Figure B-2 is an organization chart to illustrate the functional organization of the WRA and the IRWMP process.
B. **Project Team Coordination**

The Project Team will be comprised of the WRA Technical Team and consultants retained by the WRA to assist in performing analyses and preparing various elements of the IRWMP. A Project Manager, working closely with the Technical Committee, will be assigned the responsibility for the overall management of the work and coordination of activities to ensure the successful completion of the IRWMP within the adopted budget and schedule. The project team will meet at intervals appropriate for coordinating and integrating the work and work products. The Project Manager, working closely with the Technical Committee and consultants, will be responsible for preparing data and information for reporting to the WRA Board, for use in the stakeholder and public involvement process, and in preparing the IRWMP. The project team will be involved throughout the preparation of the IRWMP in performing community outreach through various organizations and associations to ensure widespread dissemination of information and to enlist the participation and input of the community regarding the IRWMP process, the work, and the work product. The Technical Team will be involved in coordinating activities with neighboring regions as well.

C. **Neighboring Regions Coordination**

For purposes of formulating the Yolo County IRWMP, the designated region is Yolo County (Map B-3). It is recognized however, that the long-term management of water resources for the Yolo County region may not only require, but be greatly enhanced through coordination and collaboration with neighboring regions. This will be accomplished by the Technical Committee through communication with the Northern California Water Resources Association, the Lake County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, the Solano County Water Agency, and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA). The extent to which other entities may be involved will depend upon the programs and projects identified for the long-term benefit of all parties. It is anticipated that the region designated for implementing programs and projects may be greater than that designated for planning purposes.

D. **Federal and State Agencies Coordination**

Throughout the course of the IRWMP planning process, the Technical Committee or members thereof will be coordinating with several federal and state agencies from the standpoint of obtaining pertinent resources data and information, studies, and regulations related to construction and operation of potential projects. At a minimum, such coordination will occur during the CEQA (and possibly NEPA) compliance process for individual projects. WRA member agencies have developed a good working relationship and have cooperated on monitoring programs, resource investigations, and engineering projects.
The federal and state agencies will be invited to participate in public meetings or workshops and in subgroups to address particular resource issues.

E. **Project Work and Budget Status Reports**

The Project Manager will be responsible for the preparing monthly status reports on the work and budget. The status reports will be reviewed with the Technical Committee and submitted to the WRA Board of Directors. Quarterly reports will be presented to the WRA Board. The quarterly reports will be scheduled to be consistent with the quarterly reports that are submitted in compliance with the Proposition 50 grant funding requirements.

F. **Proposition 50 Compliance Reporting**

The Proposition 50 grant funding program requires submitting quarterly reports through the agreement period. The Program Manager, working with Technical Committee, will prepare the quarterly reports that will be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by the YCFCWCD on behalf of the WRA. As noted above, the reports will be presented to the WRA Board as well.

G. **Data Management System Expansion**

As mentioned previously in the Background section, A.7 Data Management, outreach documents and announcements will be stored on the WRA Website for public access. Mailing lists, meeting attendance sheets, meeting notes, public comments, and responses to comments will be stored on a WRA computer. A file management system will be created to ease storage, backup, and retrieval of project documentation.

Technical data, such as water flow, water quality samples, land use, etc., will be stored in an expanded version of the WRID. The current and future use of the WRID is described in Section A.7.
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<td></td>
<td>City of Woodland</td>
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<td>Supplemental Surface Water Supply Development Program</td>
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<td>City of Woodland General Plan</td>
<td>1996</td>
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<td></td>
<td>City of Woodland General Plan Background Report - Update</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Water System Master Plan</td>
<td>1999</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Storm Drainage Facilities Master Plan</td>
<td>1999</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Storm Drainage Facilities Master Plan Update and Preliminary Engineering</td>
<td>In Preparation</td>
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<td>Urban Water Management Plan - Update</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lower Cache Creek, City of Woodland and Vicinity Flood Damage Reduction Feasibility Study</td>
<td>2002</td>
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FIGURE B-2

FUNCTIONAL ORGANIZATION CHART

YOLO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (FISCAL AGENT)

WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF YOLO COUNTY (Applicant)

WRA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (Project Manager)

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE)

NEIGHBORING REGIONS

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

TECHNICAL TASKS

- Water Supply and Drought Preparedness
- Water Quality
- Storm Drainage & Flood Control
- Aquatic & Riparian Ecosystem Enhancement
- Recreation

CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP

PROJECT OVERSIGHT AND DIRECTION

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May 12, 2005