



## **WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF YOLO COUNTY**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Westside Region Awarded \$7 Million State Grant for Drought-related Projects**

(Woodland, Calif.) - The Water Resources Association of Yolo County (WRA) is one of four signatories of the Westside Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) that is listed on the Department of Water Resources (DWR)'s draft funding recommendations for the 2014 Drought Grant Solicitation. After a focused review process, the Westside Coordinating Committee selected drought-related water projects from the Westside IRWMP in Lake and Yolo counties. The \$7 million funding application included two projects from Yolo County: the City of Woodland's recycled water project and the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (YCFC)'s drought preparedness canal modernization project. Each project requested \$2 million in grant funding. The remaining funding will be utilized by three projects in Lake County. The Westside application will receive 100% of their funding request.

In March 2014, Governor Brown signed legislation to assist drought-affected communities and provide funding to better use local water supplies. DWR was directed to expedite the emergency drought solicitation and award \$200 million in IRWM funding to support projects and programs that provide immediate regional drought preparedness, increase local water supply reliability and assist regions to implement conservation programs and measures that are not locally cost-effective and reduce water quality or ecosystem conflicts created by the drought. A streamlined grant application approach was used to expedite awards.

“This is a great model of a regional partnership taking advantage of a funding opportunity to help local communities cope with the impacts of current drought conditions,” said Woodland Mayor Pro Tem and WRA Chair Bill Marble.

The Westside subregion is part of the Sacramento River Funding Area and is centered around the Cache and Putah Creek watersheds, and encompasses portions of Lake, Napa, Solano, and Colusa counties, and all of Yolo County. DWR has recommended to award Proposition 84 grants to 23 Integrated Regional Water Management Regions. The Westside is one of eighteen awardees statewide that will receive full funding of their proposal. The YCFC will also serve as the lead fiscal agent for the Westside drought grant. Final awards will be announced by mid-November.

For more information on the Westside IRWMP visit <http://www.westsideirwm.com/>. For information about the WRA please visit: [www.yolowra.org](http://www.yolowra.org).

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