



Poso Creek IRWM Plan Implementation Activity and Correspondence for January, February, March, and April, 2017

Summary:

- Shafer-Wasco ID successfully completed the coordination with Reclamation Staff to complete a grant funding contract for the Kimberlina Spreading Grounds, which is the modified Madera Ave Intertie project. Reclamation approved the NEPA EA and signed the FONSI in late September and was intending to sign the modified contract documents in the first quarter of their new fiscal year, however, the District did obtain the final signature approval from Reclamation prior to their February board meeting. The project's earthwork construction started in October and will be completed in April.
- Eric Quinley, Jessi Snyder, Frank Ohnersorgen, Sam Schaefer, and other Poso Creek IRWM RWMG participant coordination efforts led to the Poso Creek IRWM RWMG signing a letter of support for the DAC Involvement grant application.
- The County of Tulare, within the Tulare Basin Funding Area, was to submit a proposal to DWR's PSP for Proposition 1 funding for DAC involvement. The Proposal is supported by the Poso Creek IRWM RWMG. Recall the preliminary information was presented to the RWMG at the August meeting.
- The preliminary results of the DAC Involvement effort helped the DAC Working Group define the near term needs and was included as a DAC work task as part of the Poso Creek IRWM Plan Update proposal, which DWR announced the IRWM Planning Grant awards in early December, 2016. North Kern is serving as the lead agency on behalf of Poso Creek IRWM RWMG and is nearing a signed grant agreement with DWR in April or May, 2017.
- Several districts who had received funding awards from Reclamation's WaterSMART and CalFED funding programs in 2016 have initiated their field biological and cultural resources surveys in support of NEPA. Final awards for funding from the DWR's AgWUE grant program were announced. All applicants who submitted within the Poso Creek IRWM were funded and are presently working towards completing grant agreements with the DWR in 2017, to complete any environmental and cultural surveys needed, and to complete NEPA for Reclamation.
- Several requests from DWR Staff, federal entities in Reclamation, CVP contractors, and Senators for Stormwater or groundwater recharge type projects that could be implemented were responded to during February, March, and April.
- NK continues to work with DWR Staff to complete the Proposition 84 IRWM Imp funding. The contract was signed in early September; NK is the Grantee for the DWR contract with LHUD a project sponsor. The NK project is completed. LHUD is on schedule for completion in early 2017.