

## WRA Legislative Advocacy – ACTIVITY REPORT

To: Nick Chiulos, Assistant CAO  
From: Robert Johnson, WRA Deputy GM  
Date: February 8, 2016

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### Advance Notification of Upcoming Meetings (who, where, when, purpose of meeting)

1. No meetings are scheduled within the next month.

### Report on meetings this reporting period

1. There were weekly Interlake Tunnel coordination meetings.

### Report on any other activities undertaken on behalf of WRA:

1. WRA staff provided tremendous support to Nossaman for a County grant to augment funding for the County's "Basin Investigation". A draft Grant Award notification was received in late January.
2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) – Formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).
  - a. First facilitated Public Workshop will be January 21, 2016 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm
    - i. Meeting location – Monterey Room, Monterey County Government Center
  - b. WRA and County staff discussed possible basin boundary modifications and the work necessary to get the modifications completed in the State's timeframe.
  - c. Portions of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin now reclassified to critical, moving the Groundwater Sustainability Plan deadline from 2022 to 2020.
3. Interlake Tunnel Project progress:
  - a. White Bass Solution Development
    - i. Documents requested at October 12 meeting were delivered via email on November 19, 2015. Documents requested were:
      - a. A reevaluation of the deep water intake and fish screen structure to develop a cost-effective solution that considers the science of white bass habitat.
      - b. A report that incorporates the benefits of the Interlake Tunnel Project within an integrated Salinas River approach, including conservation, water supply, water quality and the related ecological, environmental and economic benefits.
  - b. Sustained Project Funding needs to be arranged.
    - I. The schedule for funding approval and contract awards is as follows:
      - a. Third Funding Agreement (\$971,000) – County Board of Supervisors – Dec 15
      - b. Environmental contract award - WRA Board of Supervisors – Dec 15
    - II. Investigation of a Private-Public Partnership (P3) as possible funding option
      - a. The P3 Approach was deemed necessary since no grant funding had become available in a timely manner necessary to bring the Project to a Proposition 218 vote, nor for the design-build method of procurement pursuant to AB 155.
      - b. At the December 15, 2015 Board meeting Assemblyman Alejo advised that he would seek to secure funding for the Projects via special legislation; however, additional time would be required to do so.
    - III. An update was provided to the BOS regarding the Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Projects on January 26, 2016.

### UPCOMING

CONFERENCE CALLS	WRA ACTIVITY REPORT DEADLINES	LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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