

ITEM: 20

SUBJECT: Strategy for Addressing Climate Change and Water Quality in the Central Valley

BOARD ACTION: Adopt Resolution to Approve the Central Valley Region Climate Change Work Plan

SUMMARY: Impacts of Climate Change are, and will continue to impact water quality in the Central Valley. Sharp rises in the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases over the last century and a half, due to human activity, have led to an increase in global average temperature and associated climate change. Climate change is affecting and will affect the Central Valley of California in myriad ways. Current and future impacts include increasing frequency of extreme weather events, and prolonged fire seasons with larger and more intense fires. Changes in hydrology include more precipitation falling as rain versus snow, more extreme storm events, declining snowpack, and changes in the timing and volume of peak runoff. Vulnerabilities of water resources include, but are not limited to, subsidence, erosion, flooding, related risks to water and wastewater infrastructure and operations, and reduced groundwater availability coupled with the potential for concentrating groundwater pollutants.

A Climate Change Work Plan has been developed to begin to address the impacts of climate change on water quality in the Central Valley. All of the Board's Programs are addressed in the Work Plan. The work plans lays out the impacts of climate change in each program and proposed responses to address those impacts. The Work Plan sets for a framework that will guide current and future efforts in order to promote resiliency of water resources in the Region.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Work Plan and accompanying Resolution

Mgmt. Review:
Legal Review:

7/8 December 2017
Central Valley Regional Water Board
11020 SunCenter Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670