Public Workshop on Agricultural Irrigation Water Distribution and Use

A Joint Department of Water Resources and Department of Food and Agriculture Project

September 27, 28 & 29, 2016

cdfa
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Presentation Outline

1. DWR and CDFA roles in Agricultural Water Management
2. The Joint Program
3. Funding
4. Review of Application
5. Timeline of Activities
6. Stakeholder Comments (Deadline September 30)

DWR's Role in Agricultural Water Management

- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is responsible for managing and protecting California's water.
- DWR works with other agencies to benefit the state's people, and to protect, restore and enhance the natural and human environments.
- Responsible for the conveyance of water to farmers through irrigation districts
- Implementation of SBX7-7, Water Conservation Act of 2009

CDFA's Role in Agricultural Water Management

- The State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP) that began in 2014 to incentivize on-farm water conservation and reduce GHG emissions
- DWR is a key partner
- Authority of the Environmental Farming Act of 1995

Division 1, Part 1, Chapter 3, Article 8.5, Sections 560-568, Section 566 (a)

The department shall establish and oversee an environmental farming program. **The program shall provide incentives to farmers whose practices promote the well-being of ecosystems, air quality, and wildlife and their habitat**.

SWEEP (CDFA)

- Emergency drought legislation bill (SB 103) signed by Governor Brown on March 1, 2014.
  - $10 million
- AB 91 allocated additional funds in March 27, 2015.
  - $10 million
- Item 8570-001-3228 of the Budget Act of 2015 (Chapter 321, Statutes of 2015) appropriated another $40 million dollars from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund
  - $3 million have been set aside for this joint program with DWR

…….to invest in irrigation and water pumping systems that **reduce water use, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions**.

http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=18432

Proposition 1 (DWR)

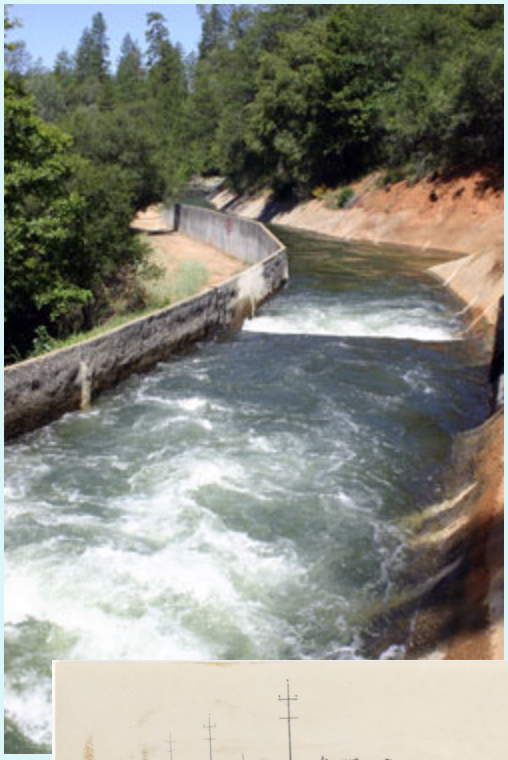
- For 2015, $33 million was budgeted for agricultural water use efficiency grants to implement Proposition 1 §79746(a)(2), available for agricultural water suppliers
- **$3 million for joint PSP** with CDFA to implement a pilot project targeting agricultural water supplier water use efficiency improvements in conjunction with on-farm improvements.
- **50% Cost Share** is required for all projects unless Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) or Economically Distressed Areas (EDA) status is claimed and documented.

The Joint Program

- **Can we design a program to**:

1. Incentivize the pressurization of the delivery of water to farms;
2. Incentivize efficient on-farm water distribution systems that increase water use efficiency and reduce greenhouse gases;
3. Both incentive pieces are connected;
4. Irrigation district would be the lead applicant for pressurized system and growers.

The Joint Program - DWR



The Joint Program - CDFA

The Joint Program and Funding

Conveyance

Funded by DWR
Prop 1 funding - $3 million

Farms

Funded by CDFA
GGRF - $ million

Initial Framework

- **Program can be set up to:**

1. One application from agricultural water supplier with farmer applications included
2. Show significant decrease in use of groundwater pumps to reduce GHGs
3. Water and GHG savings to be quantified by agricultural water supplier through the use of a GHG Calculator developed by the CA Air Resources Board
4. Water energy use records maintenaned for minimum three years post-project
5. Flexibility for conjunctive use

Preliminary Timeline

- Release Final Guidelines
- Review and rank applications received
- Announce awards
- Project implementation
- Project closeout

Review of Application

- Webpage: http://www.water.ca.gov/wuegrants/AgWUEPilot.cfm
- Draft Application: http://www.water.ca.gov/wuegrants/Docs/DWR%20CDFA%20Joint%20RFP%2008.25.2016-DRAFT_Updated.pdf
- Pages 21-69: Application Guideline and Attachments

THANKS……

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