

No. 38 - Upper Kings Basin Water Forum Integrated Regional Water Management Region

Region Acceptance Process Summary

General Description of Region

The Upper Kings Basin Water Forum (UKBWF) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Region spans over parts of three counties: Fresno, Kings, and Tulare. This Region is located within the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Unit. The Region, defined primarily by hydrologic boundaries, is essentially comprised of the Kings sub-basin (DWR Bulletin 118).

The Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) was chosen by the UKBWF to act as the regional entity responsible for the development of the Region's IRWM Plan, in close coordination with the UKBWF. KRCD has regional authority and responsibilities consistent with the IRWM Plan goals for groundwater management, flood management, water quality preservation, environmental stewardship, and public information. Several small public utilities and community services districts within the UKBWF IRWM Region have joined. Areas outside the present boundary of this Region are also being included. Virtually all of the canal companies and most water districts have joined as Interested Parties in the anticipation of the expansion of the UKBWF IRWM Plan area, which will eventually include the entire Kings Groundwater Basin.

There are other existing and more localized cooperative efforts within the Lower Kings Basin that may lead to the future expansion of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG). The UKBWF has met with many Stakeholders and has sent letters to all water management agencies notifying them of the opportunity to join the UKBWF RWMG as either official members or interested parties. Future opportunities to join the UKBWF RWMG will be available.

Interview Conclusion- Approved

The expansion of the UKBWF IRWM Region will include more Stakeholders and will help foster improved regional planning.