



News for Immediate Release

September 25, 2013

Contacts: Zaffar Eusuff, Financial Assistance Branch, (916) 651-9266
Ted Thomas, Information officer, (916) 653-9712 tthomas@water.ca.gov

DWR Announces Award of \$91.8 Million in Proposition 1E Stormwater Flood Management Grants

SACRAMENTO – Reducing and preventing damage from California’s future floods are the goals of 10 new grants to local public agencies by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Director Mark Cowin approved \$91.8 million in Proposition 1E Stormwater Flood Management (SWFM) Grant Program funding awards on September 20, 2013.

The largest grant of \$30 million was awarded to the Santa Clara Valley Water District to provide 100-year flood protection to the 22-square-mile watershed that includes the City of Milpitas and portions of San Jose. The grant will help fund projects that aim to improve water quality through sedimentation and erosion reduction, protect and restore habitat, improve maintenance of Berryessa Creek and tributaries, and expand recreation opportunities.

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District is receiving the second largest grant, nearly \$28.4 million, to improve three existing District facilities and construct a new interconnecting pipeline. Sediment removal will increase the capacity of Devil’s Gate Dam and Reservoir. The Eaton Wash Dam’s seismic performance and operational capabilities will be improved, and the Eaton Wash Spreading Grounds will be enlarged and enhanced.

Details on the districts’ use of their grants are found by clicking on the Proposition 1E Round 2 Stormwater Flood Management Proposal Evaluations and Recommendations drop-down menu at <http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/stormwaterflood.cfm>.

Funding for the SWFM grant program is part of DWR’s Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program and is available through the Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 1E; Public Resources Code Section 5096.827), which California voters approved in November 2006. Proposition 1E authorized the Legislature to appropriate \$300 million for stormwater flood management projects.

These grants are awarded to local public agencies for projects that are not part of the State Plan of Flood Control and are consistent with an adopted Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and the Regional Water Quality Control Plan. The grant funding will support projects costing in excess of \$238 million.

In 2011, DWR awarded an additional \$177.7 million in grants to 21 local public agencies for projects totaling \$417 million.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.