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## Coordinating Committee

### Lake County Watershed Protection District

Will Evans  
Will.Evans@lakecountyca.gov  
David Cowan  
David.Cowan@lakecountyca.gov



### Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Chris Silke  
Christopher.Silke@countyofnapa.org  
Jeff Sharp  
Jeff.Sharp@countyofnapa.org



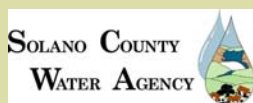
### Water Resources Association of Yolo County

Elisa Sabatini  
Elisa.Sabatini@yolocounty.org  
Max Stevenson  
mstevenson@yfcwcd.org



### Solano County Water Agency

Chris Lee  
clee@scwa2.com  
Sabrina Colias  
scolias@scwa2.com



Administrative support provided by Yolo County Resource Conservation District; info@yolorcd.org

# Annual Report — 2018

## What's New in the Westside

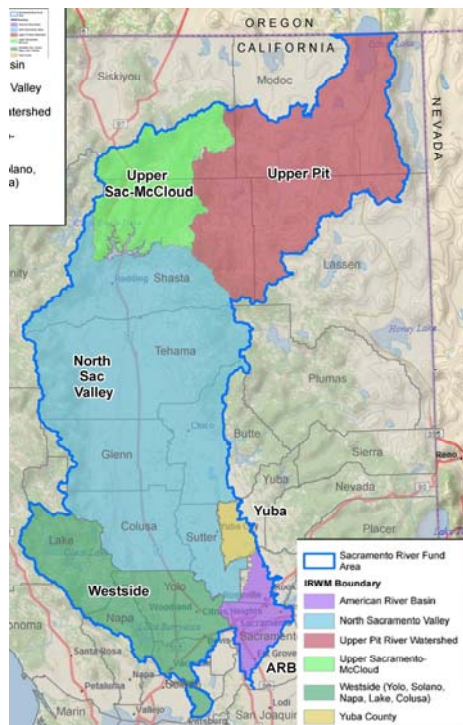
The Westside Sac IRWMP Coordinating Committee has a **new Chair** for 2017-19. Elisa Sabatini, Manager of Natural Resources for the County of Yolo, has stepped into the Chair position vacated by Chris Silke from Napa County. Sharing the Chair position signifies the commitment that each of the four member-counties have to their investment in regional water management.

Increasing work for the Coordinating Committee meant **increasing their meeting frequency from quarterly to every two months**. Starting in January, they now meet six times per year on the second Wednesday of every other month. Their first meeting for 2019 was on January 9<sup>th</sup> in Yolo County. The following

meetings will rotate to Lake, Napa and Solano Counties, then back to Yolo County. Members of the public are welcome at all meetings.

The State Department of Water Resources (DWR) always provides a person to serve as a liaison to the Westside. This connection to DWR fosters effective communication and positive working relationships. This is particularly helpful with their grant programs, which have brought tens of thousands in grant dollars to the Westside region. For a listing of grants available through DWR and other state agencies, check the Westside's website for a frequently-updated listing of funding opportunities: [www.westsideirwm.com/funding.html](http://www.westsideirwm.com/funding.html).

## Special Project for Disadvantaged Communities



The Sacramento River Funding Area

The State Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program has provided millions of grant dollars to IRWM Regions since it began in 2002 with SB1672. DWR must spend at least 10 percent of its Proposition 1 IRWM money to ensure that disadvantaged communities (DAC), economically distressed areas (EDAs) and underrepresented communities (URC) are involved in IRWM activities and receive benefits from the funding. Starting in fall 2017, the Westside Sac IRWMP Coordinating Committee (CC) began participating in a **\$3.7M grant from DWR** to identify and assess the needs of all of the **DACs in the Sacramento River Funding Area**. A team has been assembled to assess community needs efficiently during Phase 1, with remaining funds available for Phase 2. During this current second phase, which started fall of 2018, work is being done to develop projects and build the capacity of small water purveyors in the region so they can find funding and actually implement desperately needed infrastructure improvement projects.

# Westside Sac IRWM Brings Funding into the Four-County Region



*Bolted steel water tank replacement*

## Financial Benefits of Participation in IRWM

Since the Westside Sac IRWMP Coordinating Committee was formed it has brought over \$10.7M into the four-county region. Match and In-Kind services associated with those grant funds reached \$5,777,836, bringing the total value up to \$16,458,128. These funds have provided infrastructure improvements during the extended California drought, promoted and implemented more efficient use of urban and agricultural water, mapped and prioritized over 100 contamination sites (“brownfields”), and done Region-wide work to identify disadvantaged communities (DACs) and assist them with critical water quality and water infrastructure improvement needs. Here are some of the sources of those funds:

### Funds brought into the Westside Sac IRWMP Region

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Request</u>      | <u>What</u>   |
|-------------|---------------------|---|
| 2011-13     | \$1,000,000         | IRWMP (DWR) Planning Grant; \$167,048 local match from member counties            |
| 2014        | \$7,000,829         | IRWMP Prop 84 Drought Funding; Local Match \$5,443,740, Total Value \$12,444,569) |
| 2015        | \$ 467,378          | EPA Brownfield Assessment Coalition grant   |
| 2015        | \$2,212,085         | DWR IRWMP Prop 84 Implementation Grant Solicitation, funding recommendations      |
| 2017        | \$ 25,000           | DWR Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant, Region Coordinator, Phase 1        |
| 2018        | \$ 25,000           | DWR Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant, Region Coordinator, Phase 2        |
|             | <b>\$10,730,292</b> | <b>Total</b>  |

But wait! That’s not all! Each year the member agencies (see the side panel on the front page) contribute \$20,000 each to toward operations. The individuals from those four agencies, who serve on the Coordinating Committee, also contribute time, expertise and the many special resources available through their agencies that have so far totaled at least \$240,000! With those added values the financial benefits of the IRWM Plan and organization being in place are exceeding \$11.5M . . . and counting!

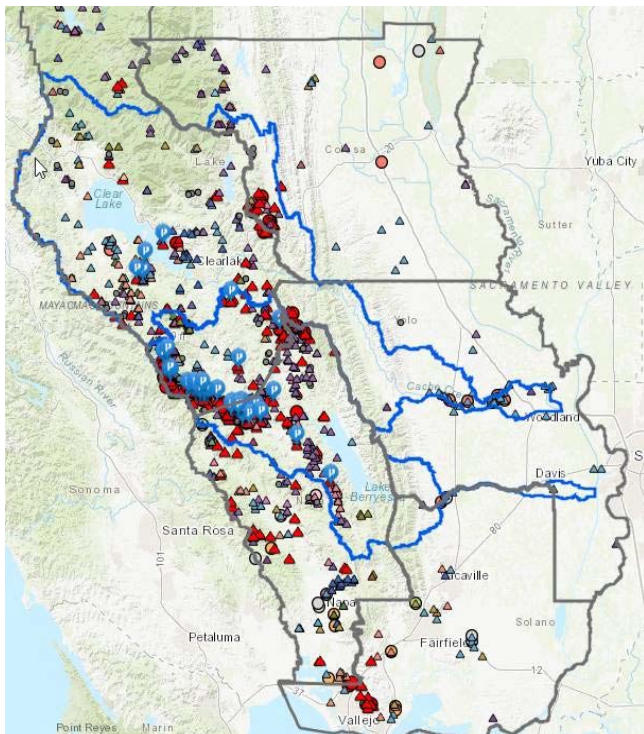


*Sewer pump station upgrade*

## Brownfields Coalition Assessment Project

The EPA Brownfields Coalition Assessment Grant was received by the Westside in May of 2015. Since then the project, led by Dr. Stephen McCord, has inventoried and prioritized nearly 100 abandoned mercury mining sites, mostly in the upper Cache and Putah Creek watersheds (<http://www.westsideirwmbrownfields.org/>).

The project team created an interactive map, conducted site investigations for five sites, developed cleanup plans for two sites, and wrote an area-wide plan for addressing abandoned mine sites throughout the region. The team also hosted workshops and presented at public meetings throughout the region to solicit landowner invitations for site assessments and to help the general public better understand the land-use issues related to brownfields. Many landowners remain nonresponsive or even suspicious of offers for free (but public) site assessments, making progress challenging. Nonetheless, several cleanup plans are in progress. This project will be wrapping up in late 2019, but the hope and intent is to secure additional funding to cleanup several mine sites that have already been assessed.



All mines located in the Westside Sac IRWM Region

## New Projects in the Westside Region



Hydroelectric plant maintenance—Yolo County

When the Westside IRWM Plan was first completed it included 143 projects. The Coordinating Committee (CC) for the Westside has always maintained open enrollment for new projects so that they can be added any time. Over 25 projects were added in the ensuing years, covering replacement of infrastructure lost during fires, water conservation measures and mine site improvement. When the CC embarked on a five-year update (see article on back page) to the plan and put out a call for new projects throughout the four member counties, 16 additional projects were submitted, along with 24 from the Yolo Storm Water Resources Plan, which is now an Appendix to the Westside IRWM Plan. That brings the total projects to 208. Clearly there is an abundance of need for projects to undertake in Lake, Napa, Solano and Yolo Counties. The State Department of Water Resources is a good – if insufficient – resource for grant funds to complete these projects, but the Westside is continuously searching for other funding opportunities for the wide-ranging project topics and directing them toward potential applicants and beneficiaries. Look for those in your email on an ongoing basis.



*Boundaries of the Westside Sac IRWM Region*

## Five-Year Update of the Westside IRWM Plan

The original Westside Sacramento IRWM Plan (2013) was based on the guidelines and requirements that came from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 2012. Since then AB 1249 and SB 985 brought about new requirements, the 2013 update of the California Water Plan was released, and there was new guidance on how Native American Tribes will participate in IRWM. The Westside’s Plan needed to comply with all of these new requirements in order to qualify for Proposition 1 grant funds. AB 1249 addressed new water quality standards for nitrate, arsenic and perchlorate (hexavalent chromium). SB 985 required the incorporation of Stormwater Resources Plans.

The Westside Sacramento Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update 2019 is now fully completed and was approved by the Regional Water Management Group on January 9<sup>th</sup> 2019. It can be found at <http://westsideirwm.com/documents.html>. The plan must clear a detailed review by staff at DWR for the Region to be eligible for Prop 1 grant funds. The updated plan will be submitted to DWR for review in early March, 2019.



*Ulatis Flood Control Channel—Solano County*



*Capay Dam—Yolo County*



*Floating solar array—Lake County*