

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Tom Mirti, Deputy Executive Director, Division of Water and Land Resources

THRU: Hugh Thomas, Executive Director

DATE: August 31, 2019

RE: Approval of Governing Board Directive Number GBD19-0007 Regarding Water Use Monitoring Assistance

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the approval of Governing Board Directive GBD19-0007 to extend the Water Use Monitoring Program for an additional two years.

BACKGROUND

In September 2012, the District began a program of water use monitoring for agricultural water use reporting on wells of 8" diameter or greater. Governing Board Directive GBD12-0003 established a program to assist agricultural water users with estimating water use from wells with an inside diameter eight inches or greater at land surface or on surfacewater withdrawals that have an outside diameter six inches or greater. This program implements monitoring on new withdrawal points as the District issues new or modified water use permits and on existing withdrawal points as the District renews water use permits. Governing Board Directive GBD12-0003 was extended by GBD17-0001 through September 30, 2018 and extended again by GBD18-0005 through September 30, 2019. Governing Board Directive GBD19-0007 will extend the Water Use Monitoring Program for an additional two years.

The proposed Directive will extend the limit at which the District will provide instrumentation and data acquisition to monitor agricultural water use in accordance with District rules until September 30, 2021, unless further extended by the Governing Board. This program will continue to implement monitoring on new withdrawal points meeting monitoring threshold criteria as the District issues new or modified water use permits and on existing withdrawal points as the District renews water use permits.

Prioritization of the use of electrical consumption data as the least-cost water use estimation method available will continue with the program. If electrical consumption data is not available, staff will use other telemetred run time monitoring methods for diesel-powered pumps and complex interconnected irrigation systems requiring direct methods of monitoring.

THM/pf

Attachment