

SUBJECT: Lower Santa Cruz River Basin Study

Meeting	Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
Regional Council	May 26, 2016	Consent Information	5I

REQUESTED ACTION/SUGGESTED MOTION

This is an information item.

ASSOCIATED OWP WORK ELEMENT/GOAL

Work Element 1611, Regional water resource reliability

SUMMARY

In July 2015, the Tucson metro area became one of only two regions in the United States which were selected by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for a three-year study consisting of the development of a supply-demand model and scenario-planning. The region was selected based on strong local water planning efforts already in place to complement the project.

The Lower Santa Cruz River Basin Study kicked off in March 2016. Basin studies are cost-shared, collaborative studies with the goal of identifying where physical water resources are needed to mitigate climate change impacts and improve water reliability for all sectors. Cost-share partners include the Southern Arizona Water Users Association, Cortaro-Marana Irrigation District, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, PAG and the University of Arizona.

Regional stakeholders, including those representing municipal, agricultural, environmental, industrial and tribal water providers and users, will have an opportunity to weigh in on the Basin Study through PAG’s public committees. Stakeholder advisory efforts will be coordinated through PAG’s Watershed Planning Subcommittee and Environmental Planning Advisory Committee as needed. Updates and opportunities for feedback will be provided to the Management Committee and Regional Council. Interested stakeholders also may be notified of public meetings and announcements by contacting Eve Halper, Bureau of Reclamation, ehalper@usbr.gov.

PRIOR BOARD AND/OR COMMITTEE ACTION

April 8, 2015, Regional Council Meeting, Letter of Support.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

TECHNICAL, POLICY, LEGAL OR OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ATTACHED ADDITIONAL BACKUP INFORMATION

Basin Study Fact Sheet.

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