

CONTACT MEMO

Date: September 8, 1997
Contact: Yolo County Water Resources Association
Setting: Board Meeting at Yolo County Administration Building

Rick Soehren and I attended a regular board meeting of the Yolo County Water Resources Agency to present CALFED's water transfer committee progress and CALFED's role in conjunctive use. The members of Yolo County WRA include UC Davis, Cities of Davis, Winters, Woodland, and West Sacramento, Yolo County, Dunnigan Water District, and the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District. Rick gave a 20 minute presentation on the status of CALFED's program and the water transfers work group. I gave a brief presentation of CALFED's groundwater outreach efforts, including a list of the Yolo County contacts that have been made in regard to groundwater issues. Rick and I answered questions from the members regarding CALFED policy issues on water transfers and conjunctive use.

Tom Stoddard, Chairman of the Association, expressed concern after our presentation that the Volume II: Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan review draft, dated July 28, 1997 was not sent to any Yolo County member agencies. He indicated the Yolo County feels threatened by the Report, especially the Cache Creek section that discussed the possibility of limiting water diversions. Tom also expressed concern over CALFED's role in "sending more water to Southern California to promote expansion down there that can't be sustained, and that would be detrimental to Yolo County." Other members expressed similar concerns that adequate outreach in the form of contacting various individuals in Yolo County with respect to ecosystem issues had not been performed. Tom and the other members did acknowledge the efforts made to date by CALFED and said that they were in support of the CALFED process.

Rick and I acknowledged their concerns and offered to include interested members in future ecosystem workshops and meetings. I indicated that a CALFED groundwater workshop was currently being organized with Yolo County supervisors and would be tentatively held on Oct. 23rd. Tom and the group thanked us for our efforts and said they looked forward to meeting with us soon on the ecosystem and groundwater issues.