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El Dorado Water Agency Approves More than \$330,000 in Cost-Sharing Funds

15 water management projects selected throughout El Dorado County

PLACERVILLE, Calif. – The El Dorado Water Agency (EDWA) approved approximately \$336,000 in funds to implement a series of projects throughout El Dorado County, through partner agencies including the South Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD), Tahoe City Public Utility District (TCPUD), El Dorado Irrigation District (EID), Georgetown Divide Public Utility District (GDPUD), Grizzly Flats Community Services District (GFCSD), and the American River Conservancy (ARC). Implementation program projects will include cost and technical assistance for the following categories:

- **Water Security (57 percent):** The Agency is supporting STPUD and TCPUD to finalize their water rights associated with the Truckee River Agreement. In addition, the Agency is supporting STPUD, EID, GDPUD, and GFCSD to develop their urban water management plans that support the suppliers' long-term resource planning and ensures adequate water supplies will meet existing and future water needs.
- **Assistance and Innovation (28 percent):** The Agency is supporting STPUD in technological advances for waterline protection systems to prioritize pipeline replacement, and to use artificial intelligence for predicting waterline failures. The Agency is also supporting GDPUD to implement metering that will improve conservation and water delivery efficiencies.
- **Watershed Management (9 percent):** The Agency is investing with the ARC to develop a meadow assessment and restoration plan for the North Fork Cosumnes River. This represents the initial phase of the development of a comprehensive meadow restoration and monitoring plan.
- **Communication and Advocacy (6 percent):** The Agency is supporting STPUD to complete a private well owner survey, and to gather important data on well usage and water quality. An estimated 246 well owners will be contacted as part of the survey.

"The approval of these cost-share and technical assistance initiatives showcases El Dorado Water Agency's ongoing commitment to support and collaborate with organizations throughout the county in a shared vision of future resource planning and effective water management for the region," said Brian Veerkamp, board chair for El Dorado Water Agency.

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As part of the implementation of its 2019 Water Resources Development and Management Plan (WRDMP), the Agency is focused on leveraging regional collaborations and support for more effective planning and resource management.

“Partnerships are critical to meeting evolving and increasing water demand and maintaining the preferred rural-agricultural way of life in the county, while addressing future challenges, including those posed by climate change,” said Ken Payne, general manager for El Dorado Water Agency.

In addition to cost-sharing programs, the Agency has entered into a memorandum of understanding with STPUD, that will lead the efforts to develop a groundwater sustainability plan for the South Tahoe region. These combined efforts create a more efficient allocation of time, information, and resources while fulfilling a unified approach for water management to create and protect a more resilient water supply in El Dorado County.

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About the El Dorado Water Agency

The El Dorado Water Agency celebrates 60 years of water resource planning and management, dedicated to ensuring that El Dorado County has adequate water supplies for today and in the future. El Dorado Water Agency is a public agency created under the 1959 El Dorado County Water Agency Act.