

Appendix D

Public Outreach

EWD has maintained its ongoing public outreach effort. During the performance of the study the EWD continued to publish its newsletter, maintain the EWD Internet Website, conduct public workshops, as well as outreach efforts to work with stakeholders within the basin.

Newsletter

During the course of the study the newsletter was published twice. An edition published early in the study announced the award of the AB 303 Grant, outlined the goals of the study and invited public input. An edition published as the study was concluding included the content off the Summary and Conclusions from the study. The Newsletter is sent to every landowner in the District, Federal, State, County and agency elected officials and staff at as well as members of environmental organizations. Copies of the two Newsletters are attached.

Web Site

The EWD Internet Web Site at <http://www.ewd.jbmj.com> is a useful tool to communicate information about the District. When contacts are made requesting information about the District, referrals are made to the Web Site. It is also a convenient way to quickly disseminate information to groups such as the Turlock Groundwater Basin Association. As information associated with the study such as the Study Goals and the Summary and Conclusions was developed it was posted on the EWD Internet Web Site.

Public Outreach Meetings

Public Outreach Meetings were held on December 4, 2002 and July 23, 2003. The meetings were promoted in the Newsletter and on the Web Site, announcements were made at the Turlock Groundwater Basin Association meetings and public notices were posted in conformance with the Brown Act. No landowners other than District Directors attended the meetings.

Appendix D

Turlock Groundwater Basin Association

The EWD continues to maintain an active presence in the Turlock Groundwater Basin Association. Members of the Association include: City of Ceres, City of Turlock, City of Hughson, City of Modesto, Hilmar County Water District, Denair Community Services District, Eastside Water District, Ballico-Cortez Water District, Turlock Irrigation District, Merced Irrigation District, Merced County, Stanislaus County. Members of the Association were requested to review and comment on the Draft Grant Application prior to submission. During the study period the EWD has provided monthly updates at the Association meetings. Sample copies of meeting minutes are attached. Members of the Association were provided with copies of the Summary and Conclusions.

Neighbor Water Agencies

EWD consultants held numerous meetings with the Turlock and Merced Irrigation Districts as well as the City of Turlock to explore alternatives to supply and convey water.