

Agenda Number 7.

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MEETING DATE: March 2, 2017

AGENDA ITEM: Report on Recovery Implementation Activities

LINKAGE TO STRATEGIC PLAN, POLICY, STATUTE OR GUIDING PRINCIPLE:

CAWCD 2016 Board of Directors Strategic Plan

- *Water Supply: Implement Recovery Plan*

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION/ACTIVITY:

- December 1, 2016 - Report on and Discussion of Pending Recovery Agreements
- September 1, 2016 - Information Brief – CAP’s Role in Recovery
- April 7, 2016 - Report and Discussion of Firming and Recovery Planning
- September 3, 2015 - Report and Discussion of Firming and Recovery Planning
- September 3, 2015 - Presentation on Recovery and Transmission of CAP Supplies in the Tucson AMA—Joe Olsen, Metro Water District
- June 4, 2015 - Report and Discussion of Recovery Planning
- January 8, 2015 - Report and Discussion of Recovery Planning
- September 4, 2014 - Report and Discussion of Recovery Planning
- June 5, 2014 - Status Report and Update
- May 1, 2014 - Board authorized CAWCD President to sign Preface Statement included in the final version of the Joint Recovery Plan

ISSUE SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:

With much of the responsibility for the recovery of water stored by the Arizona Water Banking Authority falling on CAWCD, staff continues to work on recovery implementation as outlined in the 2014 Joint Recovery Plan. Attached is the 2017 Recovery Implementation Activities Work Plan. All activities can be categorized under the action plans listed in the Board’s 2016 Strategic Plan under the strategic objective: Implement Recovery Plan. They include 1) develop cooperative agreements to implement recovery, 2) permit and construct recovery facilities and evaluate potential need for treatment and 3) implement recovery plan in cooperation with stakeholders.

Develop cooperative agreements to implement recovery. Last month, the CAP System Use Agreement (SUA) was approved by CAWCD and Reclamation. This document builds much of the legal framework for how firmed water will be moved through the system. With the approval of the SUA, CAWCD staff is now able to move

forward on entering into exchange agreements with our long term contractors to implement recovery when needed. By entering into exchange agreements with our contractors and subcontractors, recovery costs are kept lower and flexibly is increased compared to building new recovery infrastructure.

To facilitate these agreements, staff has been actively meeting with CAP subcontractors and irrigation districts with the objective of entering into a number of agreements this year. Staff has recently met with 11 potential partners within the CAP service area and discussions continue at varying levels of partnership commitment. All agreements will come to the Board for final approval. As partner agreements are secured, CAWCD and stakeholders will have a better understanding of the need and timing of new infrastructure investments.

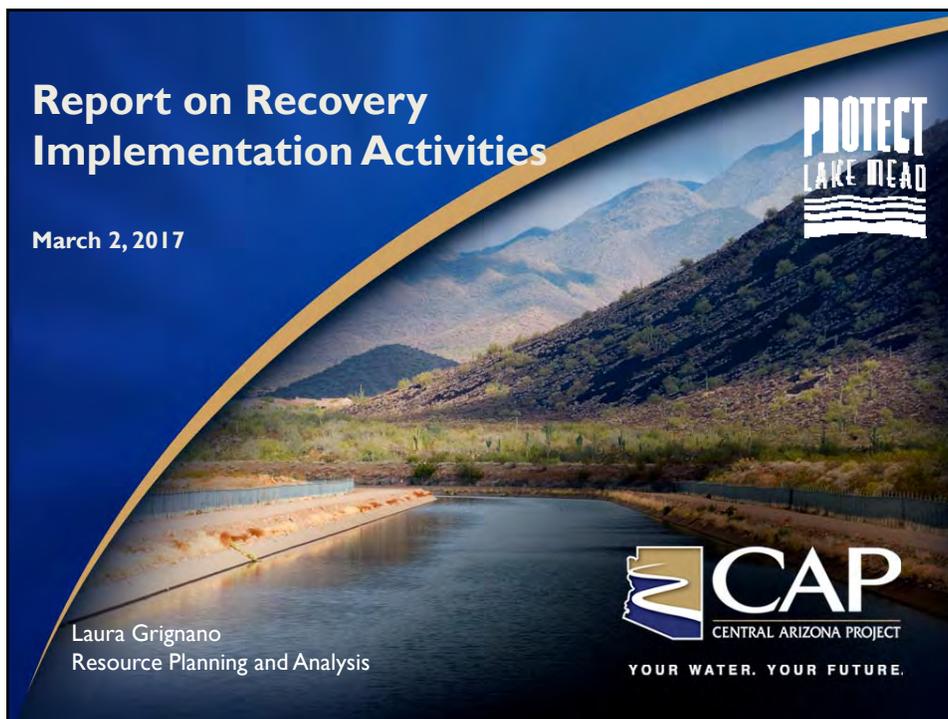
Permit and construct facilities to implement recovery and evaluate potential need for treatment. Although building new recovery infrastructure is not seen as an immediate need, CAWCD is committed to having a comprehensive understanding of recovery feasibility at sites like Tonopah Desert Recharge Project (TDRP) so that the organization will be ready to build recovery infrastructure if and when necessary.

Staff continues to conduct feasibility studies focused on the possible direct recovery of water stored at TDRP. In 2016, CAWCD drilled 3 exploratory boreholes to improve our knowledge of water quality data and aquifer characteristics at the facility. The information collected last year provided valuable information to help refine both recovery well and well field design recommendations.

CAWCD is preparing to drill and develop a hydrologic test well at TRDP in 2017 that will improve our understanding of the how the aquifer will respond to pumping.

Implement recovery plan in cooperation with stakeholders. CAWCD is also working internally and externally on how the mechanics of the recovery program will be implemented. CAWCD, ADWR and the AWBA are preparing to intensify stakeholder engagement through a stakeholder process similar to the Ad Hoc Recovery Group. That group met regularly during the development of the Joint Recovery Plan and provided the three organizations input during the process. This group will most likely cover topics such the cost of recovery, levels of participation in the recovery program and updated modelling among others.

Stakeholders will also have the opportunity to stay current on recovery implementation activities through the quarterly Board reports.



2017 Activities tied to Strategic Plan

Strategic Issue: Reliability of Water Supply

Strategic Objective: Implement Recovery Plan

- Develop cooperative agreements to implement recovery
- Permit & construct facilities to implement recovery and evaluate potential need for treatment
- Implement recovery plan in cooperation with stakeholders



Develop cooperative agreements

- CAP System Use Agreement - Approved
- Holding numerous meetings with subcontractors and irrigation districts with end objective to enter into exchange agreements
- Staff will bring these agreements to the Board for approval throughout the year
- Will provide better understanding of the timing and need for future infrastructure investments



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Construct facilities & evaluate potential need for treatment

- Tonopah Desert Recharge Project Exploratory Drilling
 - **2016 Exploratory Boreholes** findings helped refine previous well/well field design studies
 - Planned recovery depths should be reduced
 - Recovery wells should be located in the north and central parts of the facility
 - **2017 Hydro Test Well**
 - Plan to drill a Hydro Test well to refine water quality and aquifer characteristics for the TDRP recovery model
 - Will be seeking Board approval for the drilling contract most likely in June



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Cooperation with stakeholders

- Planning to intensify engagement with stakeholders on aspects of recovery implementation through a joint process with ADWR and AWBA. Topics will include among others:
 - Recovery costs
 - Recovery program participation levels
 - Updated modelling results
- Continue regular Board interaction and direction



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