

Western Regional Water Commission

STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 15, 2020
TO: Chairman and Members, Western Regional Water Commission (“WRWC”)
FROM: Chris Wessel, Water Management Planner
SUBJECT: Discussion and action on Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission (“NNWPC”) recommendations for an Interlocal Agreement with the Desert Research Institute (“DRI”), in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund (“RWMF”), to continue the Washoe Evapotranspiration (“WET”) Program; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute an Interlocal Agreement for that purpose

SUMMARY

DRI currently provides maintenance and data acquisition for weather stations associated with the WET Project. The attached proposed scope of work, for an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for FY 2020-2021, will ensure program continuity for the coming year. The proposal includes maintenance of the seven weather stations associated with the Project for the referenced fiscal year.

Greg McCurdy, DRI Associate Research Scientist Climatology, will be available to answer any questions regarding the program.

BACKGROUND

The WRWC, as successor to the previous Regional Water Planning Commission, was assigned a 2007 Interlocal Agreement with DRI to upgrade and continue the WET Project, a website-based program that reports daily irrigation controller run-times calculated using estimates of local evapotranspiration rates. The program is identified as a conservation element in both the WRWC’s 2016-2035 Comprehensive Regional Management Water Plan and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority’s 2016-2035 Water Resource Plan.

Through the WET Project, the WRWC sponsors a total of seven weather station sites: Wolf Run Golf Course, Valley Road at DRI, Lazy 5 Regional Park, Wilson Commons Park, North Valleys Regional Park, Cold Springs Park and Mogul Mountain Park. One additional weather station, owned and maintained by the University of Nevada Reno University Farm, is also associated with the project

FISCAL IMPACT

If approved, the fiscal impact to the RWMF will not exceed \$5,000 for FY 2020-2021. The FY2020-2021 approved final budget, includes sufficient budget for this project. Budget authority is located in Fund Group 766, Fund 7066, Account Number 710100, Professional Services, Cost Object WP310102;

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the WRWC approval an Interlocal Agreement with the Desert Research Institute in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund to continue the Washoe Evapotranspiration Project for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

POSSIBLE MOTION

“Move to Approve an Interlocal Agreement with the Desert Research Institute in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from the Regional Water Management Fund to continue the Washoe Evapotranspiration Project for Fiscal Year 2020-2021; and, if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute an Interlocal Agreement for that purpose.”



04/15/2020

Continued Operations of the Washoe Evapotranspiration Project
Maintenance mode only

Personnel: Greg McCurdy and Pamela Lacy

Summary of Tasks:

- Perform annual E.T. weather station maintenance for:
 - Wolf Run Golf Course
 - Valley Road at DRI
 - Lazy Five Regional Park
 - Wilson Commons Park
 - Mogul Mountain Park
 - Lemmon Valley Regional Park
 - Cold Springs Community Center
- Provide quarterly reports including progress on each task, website visit statistics and feedback from users regarding the usefulness of the website and project.
- Contact and distribute the Washoe E.T. brochure into the community. Contacts included the NV Landscape Association and plant nurseries in the Reno/Sparks area.
- Maintenance of the Washoe E.T. website.

Task schedule:

- Distribute the Washoe E.T. brochure into the community
- Annual maintenance of all Washoe E.T. stations

Cost Estimate:

Estimated total project cost (07/01/20 – 06/30/21): Not to Exceed \$5,000