

ITEM: 15

SUBJECT: Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program and the Upper Watersheds

BOARD ACTION: Informational Item

BACKGROUND: The Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) encompasses 27,210 square miles drained by the Sacramento River and watersheds tributary to the Sacramento River including the Pit River system. Approximately 8300 owners/operators farm and ranch over 1.3 million irrigated acres enrolled in the Coalition. These agricultural operations occur in three distinctive regions - Coast Range, Sierra Nevada and Valley floor.

While the ILRP General Order for the Sacramento River watershed illustrates there is commonality among agricultural operations (e.g., irrigated pasture, wine grapes) between these regions, the landscape in which the upper watersheds operate is different because of a number of factors.

Representatives of the Coalition and its partners (e.g., UC Cooperative, Agricultural Commissioners) will detail for the Board agricultural operations in the upper watershed and the stewardship initiatives undertaken to protect water quality.

RECOMMENDATION: Informational item only.

Mgmt. Review SYM
Legal Review ASD
October 13/14, 2016
Redding City Hall