



## COCHISE COUNTY

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

"Public Programs...Personal Service"

Date: September 12, 2013

To: Flood Control District Board of Directors

From: Karen C. Riggs, P.E., Director

Subject: Approve Grant Study for groundwater recharge at Riverstone.

Recommendation: Approve a grant of \$50,000 from The Nature Conservancy to help fund a feasibility study for groundwater recharge at Riverstone and an MOU setting forth the parties' responsibilities.

Background: The Board previously approved studies of the Mansker property to assess the feasibility of ground water recharge. The Mansker property was purchased by the County using funding from the U.S. Army (ACUB program), The Nature Conservancy ("TNC") and the County. The feasibility study has been completed and the recharge project will be commenced shortly.

This agenda item builds on the recharge effort on Mansker by assessing the feasibility of recharge on the 1,811 acre parcel known as Riverstone. TNC acquired Riverstone using funds from the ACUB program, subject to a military conservation easement. TNC is offering a \$50,000 grant to the County to facilitate a feasibility study for recharge on Riverstone. The Grant Agreement and the MOU attached to this agenda item set forth the terms and conditions of the grant, including reporting and the scope of work.

Fiscal Impacts: The feasibility study will be further supported by a \$50,000 grant from the Upper San Pedro Partnership. In addition, the County will contribute \$65,000 to the feasibility study. This \$65,000 is from money left over from the purchase of Mansker. The County originally had budgeted \$130,000 to acquire a small piece of the Mansker property for flood control. Because of the ACUB and TNC money used for the purchase of Mansker, the County contributed only \$65,000 to purchase Mansker, with the agreement that the remaining \$65,000 would be spent on a recharge project.

Funding Source: 261-4110-9-412.600

Next Steps/Action Items/Follow Up: Staff will pursue partnership to facilitate a feasibility study for recharge on Riverstone parcel, pursue grant funding for recharge portion of project and begin pre-design tasks for project.

Impact of Not Approving: If not approved, the FCD will not pursue partnerships for groundwater recharge project.