



Cochise County
Community Development
Highway and Floodplain Division

Public Programs...Personal Service
www.cochise.az.gov

INTEROFFICE MEMO

DATE: June 9, 2015, 2015
TO: Flood Control District Board
FROM: Karen Riggs, P.E., Director Highway/Floodplain
SUBJECT: Palominas Recharge Project Monitoring Contract

Recommendation: Flood Control District (FCD) staff recommends that the FCD Board approve the contract for second year monitoring, inspection and reporting for the Palominas Flood Control/Recharge Project.

Background (Brief): The Palominas Recharge Project is providing flood control north and east of Palominas Elementary School and the project has been monitored for one year to measure recharge at the site and to determine the effectiveness of the various pilot recharge measures that will aid in the design of future recharge projects. Monitoring data has been collected for the first year and quarterly and annual monitoring reports are being provided.

For monitoring to be meaningful we will need at least 5 years of data; 10 would be much more useful and 20 probably needed to be significant statistically.

County staff are training to do some of the field data collection and inspections, as are ARS (Agriculture Research Service) staff who will volunteer as staff are available.

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources: The contract will be on a time and materials basis to allow flexibility for accomplishing the monitoring, inspections and reporting. The maximum out of pocket cost to the FCD if no in kind, volunteer work or monetary contributions are applied would be less than \$54,000 for year two. The San Pedro Recharge Network has recommended that the fund balance in the Riverstone project (approximately \$4,000) be committed to this effort. And we will be asking for some monetary support from Walton Foundation for a portion of the funding left on the Palominas grant. We do not know if that request will be supported.

Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up: Execute contract. The County continues to gather recharge and monitoring data.

Impact of NOT approving: Monitoring data will not be collected for year 2 of the project. There will be no way to continue to quantify the effectiveness of the recharge infrastructure. No further information will be available to guide design of future recharge projects. Monitoring is a key component of the project and required by the grant.

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