

**9 December 2021 BOARD MEETING
DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEM**

AGENDA ITEM: 9

SUBJECT:

Grassland Bypass Project Update

BOARD ACTION:

Information Item Only

BACKGROUND:

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff will provide an update on the Grassland Bypass Project. Updated WDRs Order R5-2019-0077 was adopted by the Board in December 2019 for the Project. The Project was designed to minimize discharges from the Grassland Drainage Area and route subsurface agricultural drainage and stormwater flows containing selenium and other constituents around wetland supply channels in the Grassland Watershed to Mud Slough and the San Joaquin River.

Historically, discharges occurred year-round, but are now largely storm-induced. Irrigation season discharges have been managed via water reuse within the Project area since 2014. During the adoption hearing for the updated WDRs, questions were raised about the appropriateness of the selenium Water Quality Objective and research that identified spinal deformities in juvenile splittail attributed to selenium. This information item will discuss new information and actions taken since the adoption hearing to address these questions. It will also cover project compliance with Order requirements and any additional information needed to determine whether the Order should be revised.

RECOMMENDATION:

Not applicable.

REVIEWS:

Management Review:	SYM 11/12/2021
Legal Review:	JMJ 11/22/21

BOARD MEETING LOCATION:

Internet Zoom Meeting