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The Inland Empire Utilities Agency Receives Funding for the Chino Basin Water Bank Strategic Plan

*Funding received through the United States Bureau of Reclamation's
WaterSMART Water Marketing Strategy Grant*

Inland Empire, California – The United States Bureau of Reclamation has awarded the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA/Agency) \$400,000 in grant funding for the *Chino Basin Water Bank Strategic Plan (Chino Basin Plan)*. The WaterSMART Water Marketing Strategy Grant provides funding for projects that develop planning activities focused on water marketing strategy: strategies that establish or expand water markets or water marketing activities.

The *Chino Basin Plan* will develop a regional marketing strategy for the Chino Basin Water Bank Project. This project was developed under the Chino Basin Water Bank Joint Powers Authority, which includes IEUA, city of Ontario, Cucamonga Valley Water District, and Monte Vista Water District.

The marketing strategy developed by the project partners will be for aquifer storage and recovery in the Chino Groundwater Basin. The *Chino Basin Plan* brings together the region's water service providers, wastewater service providers, operators of surface water treatment and groundwater recharge facilities, and the Chino Basin adjudication parties to maximize use of the basin's excess storage capacity to improve drought resiliency using local water supplies.

"By developing and implementing a water marketing strategy that makes use of the Chino Basin's excess storage capacity, the *Chino Basin Plan* will improve the region's drought resiliency, decrease dependence on State Water Project (SWP) imports during dry years, and free SWP resources to other areas outside of the Chino Basin, benefitting Reclamation and the state of California," stated IEUA General Manager Halla Razak.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency covers 242-square miles, distributes imported water, provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services to more than 875,000 people through its member agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario, and Upland.

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