

Imperial IRWMP Scoping and Review of DWR Resources Management Strategies

- Agree to set aside for IRWMP Update until IID, County, Cities and Water Forum stakeholders move forward to gain consensus on approach.

After preliminary review, the Water Forum agreed that two *Other RMS* and two *Practice Resources Stewardship (PRS) RMS* should remain for development and integration.

1.1 Other RMS & Practice Resources Stewardship RMS

- Crop Idling for Water Transfers & Irrigated Land Retirement (*Other RMS*)
- Land Use Planning and Management & Economic Incentives - Loans, Grants and Water Pricing (*PRS RMS*)

1.2 Crop Idling for Water Transfers & Irrigated Land Retirement (*Other RMS*) Findings

- O-1 After preliminary review, the Water Forum eliminated from further consideration fallowing for transfer out of the IID area (see Table 2).
- O-2 The IID board voted unanimously to strongly confirm its commitment to prohibition of fallowing for any out-of-valley transfers in Resolution 25-2005,¹ which states:
1. IID remains committed to implementing the various water conservation programs described in the QSA and Related Agreements.
 2. IID fully intends to move away from fallowing as a means of developing conserved water for temporary transfer to others outside of the Imperial Valley and instead intends to utilize efficiency conservation measures so as to allow for the farming of the same amount of land with less water.
 3. IID will share in Colorado River water shortages consistent with the priority system under the law of the Colorado River, but IID shall not enter into agreements or other consensual arrangements whereby IID would be required to forebear any Colorado River water to which it is entitled.
 4. It is important for the IID Board of Directors to communicate in clear and unmistakable terms, and in a public fashion, that IID and the Imperial Valley community are not interested in entering into new agreements, or other arrangements, that would require the development of additional conserved water, either through fallowing or any other means, for use by others outside of the Imperial Valley.

1.3 Land Use Planning and Management & Economic Incentives (*PRS RMS*) Finding

- PRS-1 As of this writing, no action has been taken regarding a proposed MCI Exchange, which would include possible crop idling, fallowing, irrigated land retirement, capital projects, economic incentives (grants, loans, water pricing, etc.) and other measures. Depending on developments within the Imperial Region, this could be a topic for a future Imperial IRWMP update.

¹ Reaffirm Adoption of Res.25-2005IID's Commitment to Implement QSA Programs and Opposing Forbearance of Any IID Water. <http://www.iid.com/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=3891>