

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA****COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

AGENDA DATE: May 22, 2012

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Ratification of the Cachuma Conservation Release Board 2013 Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council ratify the Fiscal Year 2013 Cachuma Conservation Release Board (CCRB) budget in the amount of \$643,511, with an estimated City share of \$263,043.

DISCUSSION:

CCRB represents the Cachuma Project water rights of three of the four South Coast members: the City of Santa Barbara, the Goleta Water District, and the Montecito Water District. The fourth South Coast member, Carpinteria Valley Water District, withdrew from CCRB in 2010. Councilmember Dale Francisco is the City's appointed board member for CCRB.

The two main responsibilities of CCRB are representing its members in the ongoing State Water Resources Control Board proceedings regarding Cachuma Project water rights and preparing for a reconsultation on the National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion related to steelhead trout in the Lower Santa Ynez River. The budget includes funding for legal, biological, and technical consultation related to these two efforts, as well as administrative expenses and salary for the CCRB General Manager.

CCRB shares some project costs with Improvement District No. 1 of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, as indicated by the 11.58% cost share shown on the attached budget itemization. On April 23, 2012, the CCRB approved a budget for Fiscal Year 2012 in the amount of \$643,511, with a City share of \$263,043. Under the CCRB Joint Powers Agreement, the Budget requires ratification by CCRB members.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funds are included in the recommended Fiscal Year 2012 Water Fund operating budget to pay the City's share of the CCRB budget. At their regular meeting of April 14, 2012,

the Board of Water Commissioners voted (??) to recommend for/against ratification of the CCRB budget.

ATTACHMENT(S): Cachuma Conservation Release Board Approved FY 2012 Budget

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Bjork, Water Resources Manager/RB/

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office