

Meeting Date: January 29, 2014

Staff Contact: Katherine Yuhas, Water Conservation Officer

TITLE: R-14-3 - Approving a Joint Funding Agreement with the USGS for

Post-Wildfire Debris Flow Assessment

ACTION: Recommend Approval

Summary:

Due to the high threat of wildfire in the Jemez Mountains because of the ongoing drought, the Water Authority is participating in a study of the threat of wildfire to the water supply of the Middle Rio Grande organized by the Nature Conservancy. As part of this ongoing study, the USGS will perform an assessment of the potential for post-wildfire debris flows from the southwestern Jemez Mountains into the Rio Grande.

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$30,000 from Water Resources contractual services.

ALBUQUERQUE BERNALILLO COUNTY WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY

BILL	- NO. <u>R-14-3</u>
1	RESOLUTION
2	APPROVING A JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL
3	SURVEY (USGS) FOR AN ASSESSMENT OF THE POTENTIAL FOR POST-
4	WILDFIRE DEBRIS FLOWS IN CURRENTLY UNBURNED AREAS OF THE
5	SOUTHWESTERN JEMEZ MOUNTAINS NEW MEXICO.
6	WHEREAS, due to the ongoing drought wildfire threats are heightened; and
7	WHEREAS, previous wildfires in the Jemez Mountains have led to debris flows
8	into the Rio Grande; and
9	WHEREAS, the Water Authority is participating in a study coordinated by the
10	Nature Conservancy on the threat of wildfire to water supplies in the Middle Rio Grande;
11	and
12	WHEREAS, the USGS possesses the technical expertise to perform this work;
13	and
14	WHEREAS, the USGS performs other geologic and hydrologic assessments for
15	the Water Authority under a Joint Funding Agreement.
16	BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WATER AUTHORITY:
17	Section 1. The Executive Director is authorized to enter into a Joint Funding
18	Agreement with the USGS to estimate the potential for and magnitude of post-wildfire
19	debris flows for the Jemez Mountain area.
20	Section 2. The assessment shall be completed by December 31, 2014.
21	Section 3. The Water Authority shall provide the USGS with \$30,000 to fund
22	the assessment.
23	
24	
25	
26	