

NEWS RELEASE



Farmington Groundwater Recharge Program

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FARMINGTON PROGRAM RECEIVES ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

The Farmington Groundwater Storage Pilot Project – the debut recharge facility of the Farmington Groundwater Recharge Program – has been named the Water/Environment Project of the Year, 2003, by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Provided by the Society's Sacramento Section, the award recognizes completion of a 60-acre recharge facility at Stockton East Water District (SEWD) headquarters and the program on which it is based – the Farmington Groundwater Recharge Program. The \$2.4 million facility includes a 19-acre pond and three recharge basins, totaling 35 acres. Annual recharge capabilities at the site are estimated at 7,000 acre-feet.

The Farmington Groundwater Recharge Program is a \$33.5 million effort lead by SEWD in partnership with the Sacramento District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to contribute to restoration of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin and to repel saline water intrusion. It is the largest direct groundwater recharge program in the region since completion of the New Melones Reservoir water conveyance system in 1993.

In granting the award, the Society said the Farmington Program pilot project “represents the greatest contribution to civil engineering progress” and is given to recognize the “outstanding work of many engineers who have contributed to the project.”

“Stockton East Water District is thrilled the Farmington Program pilot project has been recognized among the many other deserving projects,” SEWD General Manager Kevin Kauffman said. “We’re honored that our industry peers recognize that our program is a proven and effective effort.”



Stockton East Water District Board President Tom McGurk (center), accepted the ASCE award on behalf of the District. Joining McGurk were SEWD Assistant General Manager Jeanette Thomas and SEWD Senior Engineer Tim Hampton

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SEWD Board President Thomas McGurk received the award during at the Society's Feb. 20 banquet in Sacramento.

The concept and technology for the Farmington Program was developed by the Corps and the Sacramento office of MWH Americas Inc., a worldwide consulting firm that specializes in water resources and environmental engineering, power generation, facilities development, laboratory services, construction, multi-sector program management, asset management, financial services, IT consulting, government relations and applied science.

The pilot project recharge facility was designed by the Sacramento office of Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, a full-service, multidiscipline engineering and environmental sciences consulting firm, serving private and public sector clients throughout the Western United States.

In addition to the recharge facility at SEWD, the Farmington Program is evaluating a dozen candidate parcels ranging from 20 to 120 acres. If fully enrolled in the program on short and long-term agreements, landowners of these parcels will receive compensation during seasonal use of the land for recharge.

For more information visit www.FarmingtonProgram.org, or call 209-948-0333.

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About the Program: The Farmington Groundwater Recharge Program is a \$33.5 million effort lead by Stockton East Water District in partnership with the Sacramento District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to contribute to restoration of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin and to repel saline water intrusion. The Program seeks to rotate water with other land-uses via short- and long-term agreements with landowners, and may develop permanent recharge facilities. The Program goal is to spread an average of 35,000 acre-feet of water annually on 800 to 1,200 acres of land generally bound by Jack Tone Road on the east, Highway 99 to the west, the Mokelumne River in the north and Temple Creek in the south.