



## **Grassland Water District Commends Governor Brown Signing AB 1317**

October 11, 2017 Press Release

Grassland Water District is pleased to acknowledge that Governor Jerry Brown signed AB 1317 (Gray) into law. AB 1317, which was supported by District landowners, conservation partners and clean air groups, will extend the Carl Moyer incentive payment program to convert and replace old emission producing technologies for groundwater wells and water conveyance engines on habitat and conservation lands.

Previous limitations in the Carl Moyer Program limited incentive grants to agricultural lands. This led a disparity in incentive funding, where landowners using the exact same technology on adjacent sides of a fence had conflicting eligibility, simply because of their land uses. Local Air Pollution Control Districts have identified point source water conveyance engines as one of the most cost-effective targets for replacement with cleaner air technologies. Unfortunately, current laws prevented them from spending incentive funding on lands dedicated for habitat and conservation purposes.

Grassland Water District delivers water to state, federal and private wildlife refuges in the Grasslands Ecological Area, home to the largest remaining wetland in the California. Landowners supplement surface water supplies with pumped water, and bear the expense of operating and maintaining these habitat-specific water resources. Many landowners struggle to fund necessary land management practices, let alone the cost of upgrading older technologies. AB 1317 Carl Moyer funding will provide a valuable financial infusion that could be the difference between the status quo and upgrading to more efficient and cleaner air technologies.

“This is one of those rare instances where environmentalists, water users, and hunters all get a win,” said Assemblyman Gray. “We are taking steps to improve the air quality of the San Joaquin Valley, improving the efficiency of water conveyance, and preserve historic wetlands for waterfowl and sportsmen alike. I’d like to thank the Grassland Water District and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District for their assistance in advancing this bill passed the finish line. This is what common sense solutions look like.”

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