

Reclamation Board—Continued

ago and the engineering staff of the board devoted such time as they had in attempting to complete it. With the increased construction program of the corps of engineers and the resulting increased demand for right of way, our engineering staff has had little time to devote to the preparation of this inventory and the inventory is less than 50 percent complete.”

Accepting the importance of an accurate property inventory, we recommend that the position be approved for one year only. At the 1955 Session the board should make a progress report on this project, and the need for continuing the position should be reviewed.

Gas Revenue Auditing Service

Anticipated revenues from rents and royalties on oil and gas lands are estimated at \$260,000 for 1954-55. For some time the Reclamation Board has felt that these revenues were not receiving a proper audit. At present, the staff of the State Lands Commission does the meter reading, and these reports are checked against the revenues. This procedure was reviewed recently by a representative of the Division of Audits, who indicated that a more complete and effective audit of these revenues could be accomplished through a service agreement with the State Lands Commission at an annual cost of \$2,600. It is recommended that this request be allowed for one year and that the board report upon the results of this more comprehensive audit at the end of that period.

Approval of the budget is recommended, subject to the condition that federal expenditures for the Sacramento River Flood Control Project remain approximately at the present level. Any significant reduction in the federal appropriation should make possible certain reductions in the budget of this agency.

WATER RESOURCES BOARD

ITEM 258 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 878
Budget line No. 7

For Support of Water Resources Board From the General Fund

Amount requested -----	\$75,356
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year -----	75,330
Increase -----	\$26

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO			Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services			
Salaries and wages -----	\$117	\$117	---	878	73	
Operating expense -----	-91	-91	---	879	18	
Equipment -----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Total increase -----	\$26	\$26	---	879	23	

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted -----	\$75,356
Legislative Auditor's recommendation -----	75,356
Reduction -----	None

Water Resources Board—Continued

ANALYSIS

The State Water Resources Board is the agency designated to study and make recommendations to the Legislature on water conservation and flood control matters; to investigate and recommend allocations from the Flood Control Fund of 1946 to local agencies to cover the cost of cooperation in flood control works constructed by the Federal Government; and to represent the State and local agencies in matters pertaining to federal authorizations and appropriations for flood control projects.

The budget request provides for continuation of the board's activities at the existing level.

We recommend approval of the amount requested.

Water Resources Board
STATE-WIDE WATER RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS

ITEM 259 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 879
Budget line No. 52

For Support of State-wide Water Resources Investigations From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$591,295
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year	557,522
Increase (6.1 percent)	\$33,773

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$591,295
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	591,295
Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

This investigation constitutes a revision and completion of the State Water Plan adopted by the Legislature in 1941. Its objective is the preparation of a plan for the full conservation, control, and utilization of the state's water resources, underground as well as surface, to meet present and future water needs for all beneficial purposes and uses in all areas of the State.

The results of the investigation are to be presented in four bulletins, as follows: Bulletin No. 1—Water Resources of California—a complete inventory of water resources for each of the seven hydrographic units was printed and sent to the Water Resources Board on July 6, 1951. Bulletin No. 2—Water Utilization and Requirements of California—was to have been completed during 1952-53, but it has not yet been issued; however, it is expected to be completed during the current fiscal year. Bulletin No. 3—Plans for Development of Water Resources of California—is to be completed by the end of the 1955-56 Fiscal Year. Bulletin No. 4—Summary Report on the California Water Plan—is to be drafted upon completion of Bulletin No. 3 and should not require any considerable amount of staff time.

The importance of developing a basic State Water Plan should not be underestimated. At the same time, it is not reasonable to expect the State to continue to appropriate large sums of money year after year

State-wide Water Resources Investigations—Continued

for a project which is capable of almost unlimited expansion and whose scope is difficult to define with any precision. The legislation that initiated the study (Chapter 1541, Statutes of 1947) apparently contemplated a five-year investigation costing about \$500,000. Although the appropriation was reduced to \$140,000 by the Governor, the expenditures for this activity mounted steadily in succeeding years, as shown in the table below:

1947-48	-----	\$120,222
1948-49	-----	213,036
1949-50	-----	409,164
1950-51	-----	423,465
1951-52	-----	423,892
1952-53	-----	488,944
1953-54	(Estimated)-----	557,522
1954-55	(Estimated)-----	591,295
Total expenditures -----		\$3,209,540

While we recognize the importance of an investigation which is as fundamental to the development of the economy of the State as this appears to be, it is our recommendation that the study be concluded as soon as possible, consistent with the basic purposes for which it was undertaken.

**Water Resources Board
COOPERATIVE MINOR WATER RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS**

ITEM 260 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 879
Budget line No. 75

For Support of Cooperative Minor Water Resources Investigations From the General Fund

Amount requested -----	\$17,750
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year -----	33,750
Decrease (47.4 percent) -----	\$16,000

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted -----	\$17,750
Legislative Auditor's recommendation -----	17,750
Reduction -----	None

ANALYSIS

The State Water Resources Board conducts comprehensive investigations in areas where the urgency of water supply problems requires more intensive study than that provided by the state-wide water sources investigation. The cost of these studies is shared equally by the State and the participating unit of local government.

The board's request for funds for cooperative investigations for 1954-55 is \$16,000 less than the estimated expenditures for the current fiscal year. The board proposes to continue only three projects during the budget year. In the past the board has requested a lump sum for additional investigations in order to provide for the initiation of new investigations should the need arise. No funds have been requested for this purpose for 1954-55, and this is one of the principal factors responsible for a decrease in this item.

We recommend approval of the budget as submitted.

**Water Resources Board
SPECIAL WATER RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS**

ITEM 261 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 880
Budget line No. 12

For Support of Special Water Resources Investigations From the General Fund

Amount requested -----	\$71,340
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year -----	71,243
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Increase (0.1 percent) -----	\$97

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted -----	\$71,340
Legislative Auditor's recommendation -----	71,340
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Reduction -----	None

ANALYSIS

In January, 1952, the State Engineer, in compliance with a request from the State Water Resources Board, submitted a preliminary survey of the scope and cost of an investigation of the water resources of the Klamath River Basin. A three-year study was proposed, the total cost of which was estimated at \$177,438 (\$50,000 for Fiscal Year 1952-53, \$71,896 for Fiscal Year 1953-54, and \$55,542 for Fiscal Year 1954-55). Because the board considered the investigation to be one in which there was a predominant state interest, it recommended that the study be totally state financed.

With the exception of the 1954-55 request, which exceeds the original request by \$15,798, the actual expenditures for this project have followed the study plan as outlined in 1952 rather closely. The board expects the study to be completed by the end of the 1954-55 Fiscal Year.

Approval of the request is recommended.

**WATER PROJECT AUTHORITY
SAN FRANCISCO BAY STUDY ON SALINITY CONTROL BARRIERS**

ITEM 262 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 867
Budget lines Nos. 8 and 15

For San Francisco Bay Study on Salinity Control Barriers From the General Fund and Flood Control Fund of 1946

Amount requested -----	\$250,000
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year -----	250,000
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Increase -----	None

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted -----	\$250,000
Legislative Auditor's recommendation -----	250,000
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Reduction -----	None

ANALYSIS

Chapter 1104, Statutes of 1953, directed the Water Project Authority to study the feasibility and economic value of construction by the State of a barrier at several alternate locations across San Francisco Bay, San Pablo Bay, Suisun Bay, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, for reclamation, for salinity and flood control, and for the purpose of

San Francisco Bay Study on Salinity Control Barriers—Continued

creating a supply of fresh water for irrigation, domestic uses, and related purposes. The act appropriated to the Water Project Authority the sum of \$250,000 payable one-half from the Flood Control Fund of 1946 and one-half from the unexpended and unencumbered balance of the appropriation made by Item 428.5 of the Budget Act of 1952. It provided further that, in addition to the above appropriation, another \$250,000 payable in the same manner be allocated for expenditure by the Water Project Authority in carrying out the investigation, but that the money so allocated was to be expended only after the Legislature appropriated it for this purpose.

Of the amount appropriated for 1953-54, it is estimated that \$200,000 will be expended for services of the Division of Water Resources and the remaining \$50,000 for consultants. The Water Project Authority proposes to utilize the \$250,000 requested for 1954-55 in the same manner.

It is planned that the final report will be submitted to the Legislature not later than March 30, 1955.

We recommend that the investigation be continued during 1954-55 and that the amount requested be approved.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

ITEM 263 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 882
Budget line No. 43

For Support of Department of Social Welfare From the General Fund

Amounts requested	\$2,065,761
Estimated to be expended in 1953-54 Fiscal Year.....	2,023,262
Increase (2.1 percent)	\$42,499

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages	\$84,536	\$84,536	---	894	9
Operating expense	—19,395	—21,725	\$2,330	894	10
Equipment	—1,436	—1,436	---	894	11
Total increase	\$63,705	\$61,375	\$2,330	894	13
Increase in					
Federal Aid funds.....	—\$21,206	—\$20,489	—\$717		
Total increase in					
State funds	\$42,499	\$40,886	\$1,613		

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$2,065,761
Legislative Auditor's recommendation.....	2,046,878
Reduction	\$18,883

Recommended Reductions

Agency	Number of positions	Salaries and wages	Operating expenses	Equipment	Total
Area operations	5	\$28,067	---	---	\$28,067
Total support	5	\$28,067	---	---	\$28,067
Less:					
Federal reimbursement					9,184
Minimum reduction in state appropriation.....					\$18,883