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Alejandra Sotelo-Solis, Chair Paulina Martinez-Perez, Vice Chair Josie Calderon-Scott Steve Castaneda Hector Martinez Jose Preciado Mona Rios October 20, 2022 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SWEETWATER AUTHORITY RECEIVES GRANT FROM U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chula Vista, CA – Sweetwater Authority (Authority) received a grant from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for \$275,000. The grant money is for the preparation of a draft Habitat Conservation Plan / Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP / NCCP). The Authority will provide a 25 percent match to these funds to complete the draft plan.

"The Board would like to extend its gratitude to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for this grant," said Chair Alejandra Sotelo-Solis. "These funds will ensure that we can carry out our mission of providing safe reliable water to our customers, with a balanced approach to human and environmental needs."

The Authority is committed to the protection and sound management of natural resources on its lands, and ensures that its water operations are consistent with existing environmental laws and regulations. As a result of project permits and an ongoing partnership with the natural resources regulatory agencies, Authority programs have been developed to implement wildlife species monitoring, habitat restoration and management, and watershed protection.

For additional information on the Authority's approach to natural resource management, visit www.sweetwater.org

Sweetwater Authority is a public water agency providing safe, reliable water to National City, Chula Vista and Bonita.