MARYSVILLE – Yuba Water Agency’s Board of Directors Aug.18 committed more than $2.2 million in grants for Yuba River-focused water education, water supply improvements, flood risk reduction and swift water rescue equipment.

South Yuba River Citizens League water education and community development – $71,000

As part of its continued support of water education and community development projects in Yuba County, Yuba Water approved up to $71,000 to South Yuba River Citizens League for education and community engagement.

The bulk of the grant, $56,000, will support the organization’s popular salmon expedition tours for fourth-grade students, which teaches them about Chinook salmon, the ecology of the Yuba River watershed, and the impacts of Gold Rush-era hydraulic mining to the Yuba River and the native people. The tours also share information about current restoration programs. In light of COVID-19, the funding will be used to develop and professionally produce a six-episode video series showcasing – and temporarily replacing – the on-river expeditions. The video series will be shared with all fourth grade classes in Yuba County.

“We are thrilled to support programs that educate young people about the incredible natural resource right here in their own backyard,” said Yuba Water Director Andy Vasquez. “But we’re also excited about the possibility of expanding this educational opportunity to other distanced learning programs beyond our region since it will now be available as a video series.”

$10,000 will be used to support SYRCL’s active involvement in the development of Yuba Water’s planned Watershed Experience Center and ongoing water-based curriculum for schools in Yuba County.

The remaining $5,000 will go toward the organization’s involvement in a diverse stakeholder group focused on community development pertaining to river resources in and around Yuba County on the Yuba, Bear and Feather rivers.

Browns Valley Irrigation District Sicard Pipeline Project – $2 million