

## AROUND THE EMPIRE

NORTH BAY

### \$4M federal grant to recycle water

A tri-county effort to boost use of recycled water in the North Bay for agricultural and urban irrigation has received a \$4 million federal grant.

The funding, from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, will go mostly to a pair of water projects in Napa County.

About \$90,000 will help construct 700 feet of recycled water pipeline in Sonoma Valley along McGill Road. It will allow delivery of treated water to farm properties on the east side of Highway 12 south of Sonoma.

The Napa County projects, in line for \$3.9 million in funding, include upgrades to a treatment plant that will boost production capacity for recycled water and 5 miles of pipeline to enable delivery to farm and landscaping operations.

The projects are aimed to reduce groundwater pumping, which has taxed aquifers in Napa and Sonoma counties, and conserve potable water supplies. The North Bay Water Reuse Program involves seven public utilities in Sonoma, Napa and Marin counties.

— Brett Wilkison