

## ABOUT US

United Water Conservation District protects the water resources of the Santa Clara River Valley and Oxnard Coastal Plain, which are utilized by the cities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Ventura, Santa Paula, and Fillmore, several mutual water districts and numerous farms and individual pumpers. Headquartered in Oxnard, California, the District is the wholesale supplier of treated drinking water for the cities of Oxnard and Port Hueneme and provides surface water for agricultural irrigation across Ventura County.

The District is committed to providing for local demand while trying to reverse groundwater overdraft and seawater intrusion into coastal aquifers, and to balance this demand with increased need to provide water for environmental purposes.

### At-A-Glance



Incorporated: 1950



**Governance:** The District is governed by seven directors, one elected from each of the seven divisions of the District and each serving four-year staggered terms.



**Service area:** 334-square miles in central Ventura County

**Population served:** More than 254,000 people



**Conservation:** The District conserves runoff from all major tributaries of the Santa Clara River within the District, including Piru, Hopper, Sespe and Santa Paula creeks.



**Employees:** Approximately 66



**Operating Budget:** \$35.8 million for FY 2020-2021.



### **District Facilities**

Santa Felicia Dam and Hydroelectric Facility – The dam creates Lake Piru, an 82,000 acre-foot drinking water reservoir, and generates 1.42 megawatts of electricity that is sold to Southern California Edison.



**Lake Piru Recreation Area** – The recreation area created by the lake provides year-round camping, boating, fishing and other outdoor recreational opportunities for the public.



**Groundwater recharge facilities** – United maintains 700 acres of spreading grounds including Saticoy, El Rio, Piru, Noble, Ferro and Rose. The basins facilitate a natural percolation process, allowing water to seep through layers of sand and gravel to replenish the underground supply.  Freeman Diversion Facility – Constructed in 1991, the Freeman Diversion replenishes about 58,000 acre-feet of stream flow to the underground water supply each year. A fish ladder was built into the Diversion to allow for the annual migration of steelhead trout.



 Oxnard- Hueneme Pipeline – The system
provides drinking water to the City of Oxnard, the Port Hueneme Water Agency and a number of mutual water companies, eliminating the need for pumping near the coast, where wells are most vulnerable to saltwater intrusion.



Pumping Trough Pipeline and Pleasant Valley Pipeline and Reservoir – These facilities deliver surface water directly from the Santa Clara River to agriculture on the Oxnard Plain and Pleasant Valley to reduce pumping in the over-drafted lower aguifer system.

## United Water

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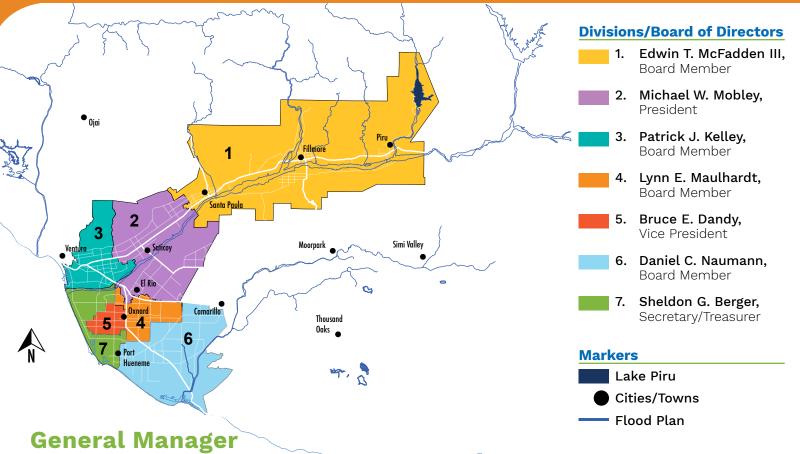
# Agency Profile

### **SERVING VENTURA COUNTY**

For nearly a century, United Water Conservation District has been managing, protecting, conserving and enhancing water resources and ecosystems across a 334-square-mile service area in central Ventura County.

The District plays a vital role in preserving a dependable supply of high-quality water and ensuring future sustainability through careful planning, regional collaborations and shrewd investments in facilities and projects.

Over its history, the District has captured 3.8 million acre-feet of water – enough to supply the City of Oxnard for the next 100 years – that would otherwise have flowed out to sea.



#### Mauricio E. Guardado Jr.

Since joining the District in 2015, Mr. Guardado has focused on building cooperative relationships with neighboring agencies and stakeholders to affect change and find solutions to the region's water challenges. He has taken the lead in diversifying and maximizing supply, pursuing sustainable projects and prioritizing stewardship in Ventura County. Prior to joining the District, Mr. Guardado served in management positions at other Southern California water agencies. He holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from California State University, Northridge and a master's degree from USC's Executive Master of Leadership Program and is a registered civil engineer in the state of California.

#### **MEDIA INQUIRIES**

(805) 525-4431

Contact **Kris Sofley** Executive Administrative Coordinator/Clerk of the Board



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