



Board of Directors  
Michael W. Mobley, President  
Bruce E. Dandy, Vice President  
Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer  
Mohammed A. Hasan  
Lynn E. Maulhardt  
Edwin T. McFadden III  
Daniel C. Naumann

General Manager  
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Legal Counsel  
David D. Boyer

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, January 13, 2021, 12:00 P.M.**

**DIRECTORS PARTICIPATING**

President Michael W. Mobley  
Vice President Bruce E. Dandy  
Secretary/Treasurer Sheldon G. Berger (virtual)  
Director Mohammed A. Hasan  
Director Lynn E. Maulhardt  
Director Edwin T. McFadden III (virtual)  
Director Daniel C. Naumann

**STAFF PARTICIPATING**

Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., general manager  
David D. Boyer, legal counsel  
Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer (virtual)  
John Carman, operations and maintenance program supervisor (virtual)  
Brian Collins, operations and maintenance manager  
Dan Detmer, supervising hydrogeologist  
Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager  
Joseph Jereb, chief financial officer  
Michel Kadah, engineer  
Kathleen Kuepper, hydrogeologist  
Evan Lashly, environmental scientist  
Tessa Lenz, associate environmental scientist  
Tim Lewsadder, recharge operations and maintenance worker I  
Murray McEachron, principal hydrologist  
Craig Morgan, senior engineer (virtual)  
Josh Perez, human resource manager  
Zachary Plummer, IT administrator  
Linda Purpus, environmental services manager (virtual)  
Robert Richardson, senior engineer (virtual)  
Dr. Bram Sercu, hydrologist  
James "JD" Smallwood, recharge operations and maintenance worker I  
Kris Sofley, executive administrative coordinator/clerk of the board  
Clayton Strahan, chief park ranger  
Dr. Jason Sun, senior hydrogeologist/modeler (virtual)

**PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS**

Frank Brommenschenkel, Frank B & Associates (virtual)  
Burt Handy (virtual)  
Aubrey Mescher, Rincon Consultants (virtual)  
Shawn Ogle, AALRR (virtual)  
Eric Schaad (virtual)  
Brian Wheeler, AALRR (virtual)

**1. FIRST OPEN SESSION 12:00 P.M.**

President Mobley called the meeting to order at 12noon.

**1.1 Public Comments**

**Information Item**

President Mobley asked if there were any comments from the public. None were offered.

President Mobley asked Legal Counsel to outline the Board's discussion for the Executive (Closed) Session. Mr. David Boyer, District's legal counsel, stated that the Board would be discussing two cases of anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2); and five cases of existing litigation including three cases with the City of San Buenaventura; one with the Wishtoyo Foundation and one regarding Josey Hollis Dorsey and the estate of Naya Rivera, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).

President Mobley adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 12:05p.m.

**1.2 EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION 12:05 P.M.**

**2. SECOND OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER 1: P.M.**

President Mobley called the Second Open Session of the meeting to order at 1:30p.m. Clerk of the Board took roll: seven Directors present (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Mobley, Naumann)

**2.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

President Mobley asked Director Dandy to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2.2 Public Comment  
Information Item**

President Mobley asked if there were any comments from the public. None were offered.

**2.3 Approval of Agenda  
Motion**

President Mobley asked if there were any changes to the agenda. General Manager Mauricio Guardado replied that the agenda was unchanged. President Mobley asked for a motion.

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Maulhardt; second, Director McFadden. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.

**2.4 Oral Report Regarding Executive (Closed) Session**

**Information Item**

President Mobley asked District Legal Counsel to report out of Executive (Closed) Session.

Mr. Boyer reported that the Board took no action in Executive (Closed) Session that is reportable under the Brown Act.

**2.5 Board Communication**

**Information Item**

Director Berger reported his participate at UWCD's Legislative and Outreach Committee meeting on January 4, the Recreation Committee meeting on January 6, the Finance and Audit Committee meeting on January 12 and an AWA Board meeting.

Director McFadden reported his participation at the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA's Workshop on December 9 and Board meeting on December 17; UWCD's Water Resources Committee meeting on January 5, Recreation Committee meeting on January 6, Engineering and Operations Meeting on January 7 and today's Board meeting. He also said he would be participating in the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Board meeting on January 21.

Director Maulhardt reported his participation at three UWCD Committee meetings (Legislative and Outreach on January 4, Water Resources on January 5 and Engineering and Operations on January 7) as well as today's Board meeting.

Director Dandy reported his participation at the Ventura County Special Districts Association meeting on December 1, two ad hoc legislative committee meetings on December 7 and December 21, and the UWCD Finance and Audit Committee meeting of December 8 and the Board meeting of December 9.

Director Naumann reported his participation at the UWCD Board meeting on December 9, an ad hoc legislative committee meeting, Water Resources Committee meeting on January 5, Engineering and Operations Committee meeting of January 7, Finance Committee meeting of January 12, the ACWA Region 5 Update meeting in December, the Fox Canyon GMA meeting via Zoom, Pleasant Valley County Water District meeting, the Regional Defense Partnership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century meeting, and the CoLAB VC meeting with Louise Lampara.

Director Hasan reported his participation in various meetings and training, including a VCSDA meeting and a Ventura Water Commission meeting. He also stated that he took a tour of the Lake Piru Recreation Area in advance of his participation at the Recreation Committee meeting on January 6. He added that he found the tour very interesting as 30 years ago he had designed the water system at the Lake Piru campground.

President Mobley reported his participation at the Mound Basin GSA Board meeting on December 17 and that he would be attending the next Board meeting on January 21; he also participated in the Fox Canyon GMA Special Board meeting on December 14 and would be attending the Board meeting on January 27 and that he would also be attending the AWAVC WaterWise meeting on January 21 to hear long range weather predictions from NOAA.

## **2.6 General Manager's Report**

### **Information Item**

Mr. Guardado addressed the Board, reminding them of their involvement in creating the District's Strategic Plan, including goals and objectives which in turn helped to create an action or work plan for staff. These long term, mission related goals and mission supporting goals have resulted in many achievements over the past six months, many of which overlap goals and objectives. (see attached presentation).

Among the many achievements highlighted in his presentation were:

- The unprecedented 33,400 AF release from the Santa Felicia Dam which began in August and continued through November. In addition to basin recharge, the release also saturated the Santa Clara Riverbed, allowing for greater water diversions at the Freeman, saved energy in that it allowed for surface water deliveries that eliminated the need for pumping and contributed to holding back seawater intrusion.
- Administrated and coordinated regulatory compliance for environmental components under the District's FERC license, which included applications for Water Quality Certification (State Water Board), Nationwide Permit (Army Corps of Engineers) and a Biological Assessment for Section 7 consultation (under the Endangered Species Act) with NMFS;
- Provided environmental regulatory compliance support for end of year activities at the Freeman Diversion including coordinating with NMFS and CDFW to develop and implement preventative measures to support end of year maintenance activities;
- Sale of 2020 Certificates of Participation—refinanced existing debt for PV savings of \$3.5M while raising \$19M cash, which will support District capital projects for the next two to three years;
- Strengthened relationships with Family Farm Alliance on legislative and regulatory outreach and education;
- Continued leadership meetings with Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency;
- Received the Navy's Letter of Intent to Support the Brackish Groundwater Extraction and Treatment Project;
- Strengthening relationship with City of Ventura and Casitas MWD regarding mutually beneficial management of State Water Project;
- Supported GSAs within the District in development and/or implementation of GSPs;
- Launched the District's new website;

- Presented June AWA Virtual WaterWise event - Keep Water Flowing: Realizing Regional Water Sustainability, updating participants on the District's projects introduced at the Water Sustainability Summit in February; and
- Participate in FCGMA Core stakeholder group including the Legal ad hoc and Projects Committees.

President Mobley asked if the Board had any questions or comments for Mr. Guardado.

Director Maulhardt commented that it is good to take the time to remind constituents of the efforts required to make all this work. Director Naumann added that it shows a lot of strength in staff and leadership and Director Dandy said it demonstrates that the Board has done a great job in hiring the best of the best, and that the District has a great team and Mr. Guardado's leadership is solidified. President Mobley thanked Mr. Guardado for an excellent presentation.

## **2.7 Update on Public Health Mandates Regarding Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19)**

### **Information Item**

Human Resources Manager Josh Perez provided the Board with an update on the latest measures being taken and recommended by the State of California Department of Public Health, Center for Disease Control and World Health Organization, among other sources, as well as executive orders from County Public Health officials, and CA Governor Newsom regarding the COVID-19 virus.

## **2.8 Election of Officers**

### **Motion**

President Mobley asked if there were any motions from the Board regarding the election of Officers for 2021.

Motion to nominate the current Officers (President Mobley, Vice President Dandy and Secretary/Treasurer Berger) for a second term, Director Naumann; Second, Director Maulhardt. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.

## **2.9 Staff Service Awards for 2020**

### **Ceremonial Item**

President Mobley presented staff service awards to Kathleen Kuepper - hydrogeologist (hire date August 2015); John Lindquist - senior hydrogeologist (hire date June 2015); Robert Richardson - senior engineer (hire date October 2015); Bram Sercu - senior hydrologist, (hire date June 2015); Steve Trocino - accountant III, (hire date August 2015); and Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr. – general manager (hire date August 2015) for five years of service to the District; to Greg DeJarnette, Santa Felicia Dam operator (hire date January 2010) for 10 years of service to the District; and to Adrian Aguayo – facilities maintenance worker II (hire date October 2005) and Raymond Avila – Operations and Maintenance recharge worker I (hire date July 2005) for 15 years of service to the District.

Mr. Guardado reminded everyone that nothing gets done without staff and President Mobley added that United only hires the best of the best.

To accommodate Mr. Collins' need to attend the Casitas Municipal Water District's Board meeting at 3pm, motion items 4.4 and 4.5 were moved up to precede Consent Calendar items.

**Operations and Maintenance Department – Brian Collins**

**4.4 Resolution 2021-03 Authorization of a Purchase of Carryover Water from Ventura Water and Casitas Municipal Water District and Finding that the Associated State Water Project is Statutorily Exempt from CEQA**

**Motion**

Mr. Collins addressed the Board, stating that the Resolution 2021-03 authorizing the General Manager or his designee to execute a contract for the purchase of carryover water from Ventura Water and/or Casitas Municipal Water District; and finding that the associated single year State Water Project (SWP) transfer from Ventura Water and/or Casitas Municipal Water District to the District is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and direct staff to post a Notice of Exemption consistent with applicable requirements was presented to the Engineering and Operations Committee last week.

Director Maulhardt said the Engineering and Operations Committee members voted to recommend approval of Resolution 2021-03 to the full Board. President Mobley asked if there were any questions or comments. None were offered.

Motion to approve Resolution 2021-03 authorizing the General Manager or his designee to execute a contract for the purchase of carryover water from Ventura Water and/or Casitas Municipal Water District; and finding that the associated single year State Water Project (SWP) transfer from Ventura Water and/or Casitas Municipal Water District to the District is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and direct staff to post a Notice of Exemption consistent with applicable requirements, Director Naumann; Second, Director Maulhardt. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.

**4.5 Execution of a Contributed Funds Agreement for the Physical Modeling of the Freeman Diversion Rehabilitation Project with the Bureau of Reclamation.**

**Motion**

Mr. Collins addressed the Board stating that this motion was also discussed at the Engineering and Operations Committee.

Motion to authorize the General Manager or his designee to execute a contributed funds agreement (CFA) with the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) for the physical modeling of the two proposed project alternatives for the Freeman Diversion Rehabilitation Project, currently under engineering design by Stantec and Northwest Hydraulic Consultants, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Hasan.

Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.

3. **CONSENT CALENDAR: All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)**

A. **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion**

Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of December 9, 2020.

B. **Groundwater Basin Status Reports**

**Information Item**

Receive and file Monthly Hydrologic Conditions Report for the District.

C. **Monthly Investment Report**

**Information Item**

Report on the District's investments and the availability or restriction of these funds. All investments are in compliance with the District's investment policy, which is reviewed and approved annually by the Board.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Naumann. Director Hasan asked to comment on the Minutes from the December 9 Board meeting. He then stated that he wanted the Minutes to reflect that he was not in Executive Session and that the summary of his remarks after taking the Oath of Office does not fully represent his statement. He added that he provided a text of his comments to the Clerk of the Board.

Director Maulhardt then revised his motion.

Motion to approve Consent Calendar items 3B and 3C and to bring back the revised Minutes contained in 3A for approval at the next Board meeting, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Nauman. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.

4. **MOTION ITEMS (By Department)**

**Engineering Department** – Dr. Maryam Bral

4.1 **Resolution 2021-02 Accepting California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Categorical Exemption Determination for the Oxnard Hueneme (OH) Backup Generator Project at the El Rio Booster Plant**

**Motion**

Dr. Bral addressed the Board and stated that the motion was discussed at the Engineering and Operations Committee. Director Maulhardt said the Committee had voted to recommend approval of Resolution 2021-02 to the full Board.

Motion to approve Resolution 2021-02, accepting the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of categorical exemption determination for the Oxnard Hueneme (OH) Backup Generator project at the El Rio Booster Plant and allowing staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Ventura County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Naumann. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.

**4.2 Contract Amendment with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants for the Freeman Diversion Hardened Ramp Physical Modeling Support**

**Motion**

Dr. Bral addressed the Board and stated that the Engineering and Operations Committee had discussed this motion. Director Maulhardt stated that the Committee had voted to recommend approval by the full Board.

Motion to authorize the General Manager to execute an amendment to the professional services agreement with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants (NHC) in the amount of \$125,595 to provide further analysis and support for the physical modeling of the Hardened Ramp as a Freeman Diversion Fish Passage Facility alternative, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Dandy. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.

**4.3 Contract Amendment with Stantec for the Freeman Diversion Modeling and Design of Vertical Slot Fish Ladder and Intake**

**Motion**

Director Maulhardt advised the Board that the Engineering and Operations Committee had reviewed the motion and voted to recommend approval to the full Board.

Director Hasan asked for the amount of the original contract. Dr. Bral responded that the original contract was for \$370,182 and that the amendment is to cover physical modeling and addition modeling as well as subsurface exploration at the Freeman Diversion. Director Naumann added that this is an ongoing process, updating evaluations and making changes to make this happen.

Motion to authorize the General Manager to execute an amendment to the professional services agreement with Stantec in the amount of \$403,879 to provide further analysis and support of the physical modeling of the Vertical Slot as a Freeman Diversion Fish Passage Facility alternative, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Hasan. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.



## **5. PRESENTATIONS AND MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS (By Department)**

### **Administrative Services Department - Anthony Emmert**

#### **5.1 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report – Anthony Emmert**

##### **Information Item**

Staff reported on and provided a presentation to the Board regarding Administration Department activities (see attached slides). Director Maulhardt commented that staff must plan ahead on water deliveries as the area is late in getting rain, the lake is low and the aquifer is going down. Director Dandy said the Finance Committee had discussed limiting pipeline deliveries. Mr. Guardado stated that realizing the area continues to rely on precipitation, the results of the release efforts from the Santa Felicia Dam include saturation zones in the riverbed that continue flows of 35cfs to the Freeman; that Piru and Fillmore basins are at higher levels and that customers can rely on basins as we enter the dry period. He reminded the Board of how the Oxnard Plain was recharged with the Fox Canyon GMA release and that with what was currently occurring in Northern California (heavy snows), there was a good chance of transfers and significant runoff from snowpack in Northern California, but we still must be careful of overdraft in Oxnard and Pleasant Valley.

Director Maulhardt said that the pre-saturated riverbed helped the conveyance and speaks to why we need to be aggressive in funding and securing Article 21 water.

Mr. Joseph Jereb added that the District is 78 percent ahead of plan on unbudgeted revenue and that working closely with Brian Collins on maintenance of pipelines, the unbudgeted revenue will offset the \$200,000 in maintenance work on the PV pipeline.

3:20p.m. – Director Naumann left the meeting.

Mr. Jereb also reported that the \$11,000 in revenue to date collected at the Lake Piru for day use in January represented a 700 percent increase over last year's revenue at the lake.

President Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions from the Board. None were offered.

### **Engineering Department – Maryam Bral**

#### **5.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report**

##### **Information Item**

Staff reported on and provided a presentation to the Board regarding various water resources, planning efforts and department programs affecting the District (see attached slides). Included in Dr. Bral's presentation was notification that the Pothole Trailhead Parking Lot project had been completed. Director Maulhardt suggested a ribbon cutting ceremony in the future and applauded Dr. Bral and staff for completing a project that Director Maulhardt said had been on the radar for nine years!

President Mobley asked if there were any additional comments or questions. None were offered.

**Environmental Services Department – Linda Purpus**

**5.3 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report**

**Information Item**

Staff reported on and provided a presentation to the Board regarding environmental and regulatory issues of note to the District. (see attached slides) Ms. Purpus introduced Evan Lashly as the presenter detailing the preparations spearheaded by the Environmental Services team in readying the District for the wet/rain season, including the District's use of cameras at the fish passage to track and record the various species using the fish passage system at the Freeman Diversion, including motion-controlled camera and a Didson (sonar) camera.

President Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions. None were offered.

**Operations and Maintenance Department – Brian Collins**

**5.4 Monthly Operation and Maintenance Department Report**

**Information Item**

The Board received a summary report on monthly operations and maintenance of District facilities.

President Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions. None were offered.

**Park and Recreation Department – Clayton Strahan**

**5.5 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report**

**Information Item**

The Board received a summary report on operations and items of note relative to the Lake Piru Recreation Area.

President Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions. None were offered.

**Water Resources Department – Maryam Bral**

**5.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report**

**Information Item**

The Board received a summary report on monthly Water Resources Department activities.

President Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions. None were offered.

**5.7 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)**

**Information Item**

The Board received a summary report on the monthly activities of the three local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (Mound Basin GSA, Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA, and the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency), for which the District serves as a member director, and Santa Paula basin (adjudicated) Technical Advisory Committee (including formation of groundwater sustainability agencies in the District's basins, stakeholder and basin user groups, joint powers or governance agreements, development of water markets, and potential basin boundary changes).

President Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions. None were offered.

**6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS READING FILE**

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

President Mobley asked if there were any suggestions for future agenda items. None were offered.

President Mobley adjourned the meeting to a five-minute break before reconvening the Second Executive Session at 4:10p.m

**8. SECOND EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION 4:15p.m.**

Continuation of the discussion of Anticipated and Existing Litigation as listed in Exhibit A (Executive Session Agenda).

**Third Open Session called to order at 4:50p.m.**

**9. Oral Report Regarding Second Executive (Closed) Session**

**Information Item**

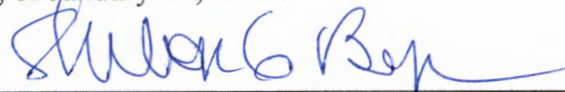
District Legal Counsel David D. Boyer reported the Board took no action in the Second Executive (Closed) Session that is reportable under the Brown Act.

**10. ADJOURNMENT 4:55p.m.**

President Mobley adjourned the meeting at 4:55p.m. to the **Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2021** or call of the President.

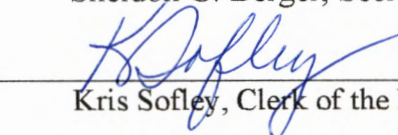
I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the UWCD Board of Directors meeting of January 13, 2021.

ATTEST:




Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer

ATTEST:



Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board



United Water  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Key Accomplishments  
July – December 2020


Presented by General Manager Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

January 13, 2021

1



2



A. Water Supply

Goal Statement: *Ensure long-term water supply for all users.*

Strategic Objectives:

A1

Identify and optimize use of all potential water supplies in the District’s “tool box” including recycled water, high sediment river water, supplemental State Water Project water, urban storm water runoff, treated brackish groundwater, etc.

A2



Maximize and expand State Water Project water delivery

A3


Prepare an Integrated Water Resources Management Plan that prioritizes all water supply alternatives.

A4

Work collaboratively with groundwater sustainability agencies and support implementation of their water plans.



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A. Water Supply

Managed annual conservation release of 33,400 AF of stored water from Santa Felicia Dam.

Concluded Freeman Sediment Management project resulting in the diversion of 13,690 AF at the Freeman Diversion between Aug 1 and Nov 30.

Completion (January 15, 2021) of El Rio Booster Pump Rehabilitation Project.

Gathered available information from wells and borings in the greater Mugu area and hosted first TAC meeting for the Coastal Brackish Treatment project Prop 1 grant. (also applies to Goals B, C, E, F and G)

Completed the 2020 Drilling Program Plan phase of the SFD Safety Improvement Project. (also applies to Goals B, C, E and G)

Advanced the design documents for the Freeman Diversion Rehabilitation Project and submitted the physical modeling plan. (also applies to Goals B, C, E and G)

Groundwater Modeling:

•


Completed expansion of the calibrated groundwater flow model to the Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru basins. (also applies to Goals B and E)

•

Prepared the necessary files to perform modeling of future basin conditions. (also applies to Goals B and E)

Completed the design, solicited bids, awarded the construction contract, purchased, and received new gates and reinforced concrete boxes in preparation for the construction phase of the Freeman Diversion Conveyance System Grand Canal project in the Spring of 2021. (also applies to Goals B, E and G)

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B. System Reliability

Goal Statement: *Ensure District’s existing and planned water supply, conveyance and recharge systems meet regional needs, including emergency response.*

Strategic Objectives:

B1

Maintain effectiveness of existing infrastructure.

B2

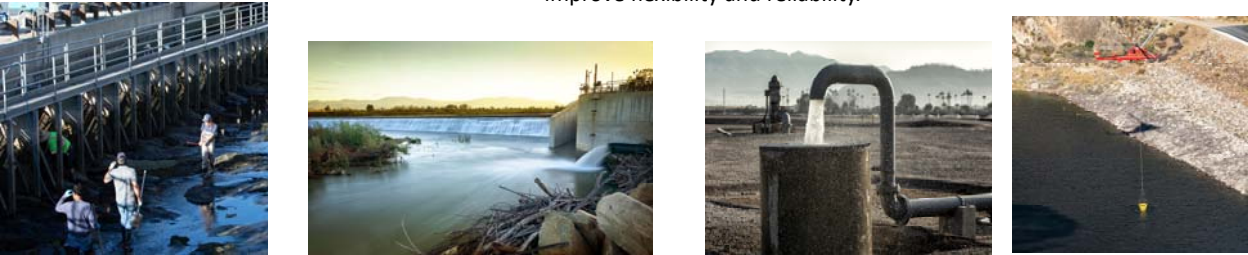
Develop and implement new infrastructure projects that maintain and improve water supply.

B3


Implement an asset management policy and develop an asset management plan.

B4

Develop strategies that leverage existing and new infrastructure to improve flexibility and reliability.



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B. System Reliability

Completed lower system quagga mitigation disinfection.

Initiated, implemented and managed Phase I of Lake Piru Marina repair project.

Administrated and coordinated regulatory compliance for environmental components under the District's FERC license, which included applications for Water Quality Certification (State Water Board), Nationwide Permit (Army Corps of Engineers) and a Biological Assessment for Section 7 consultation (under the Endangered Species Act) with NMFS. (also applies to Goal C)

Provided environmental regulatory compliance support for the Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project including consulting with regulatory agencies to secure authorization to conduct Geotechnical exploration and provided Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training and biological monitoring. (also applies to Goal C)

GRANTS:


Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2020 – High hazard dams

Awarded a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant for \$154,440 to conduct special-status avian surveys, habitat mapping, and non-native cowbird removal in the Los Padres National Forest in support of the District's future permitting efforts for the Lake Piru Recreation Area and Santa Felicia Dam facility. (also applies to Goals C, D, E and F)

Received CalOES Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding in the amount of \$646,537 for the purchase and installation of an 800kW emergency backup generator at El Rio for the Oxnard Hueneme system. (also applies to Goals C, D and E)

Received the DWR IRWMP Prop 1 grant funding of \$2.5 million in support of the El Rio Iron Manganese Treatment Project construction phase and completed the review of 100% design documents. (also applies to Goals C, D, E and G)


6



C. Regulatory  
& Environmental  
Compliance


Goal Statement: *Ensure long-term sustainability of all water sources within the District while complying with all regulations.*

Strategic Objectives:



- C1** Resolve outstanding legal disputes and prevent future legal disputes in an operationally and financially sustainable fashion.
- C2** Work collaboratively with environmental resource agencies to obtain agreement on outstanding permitting requirements.
- C3** Work collaboratively with local, state and federal elected officials to streamline and modernize the application process for permits.
- C4** Promote and provide leadership in securing reasonable and science-based decisions on environmental regulations.
- C5** Comply with state and federal drinking water quality standards.
- C6** Evaluate all projects from an economic, social and environmental perspective.
- C7** Incorporate environmental best practices in all District projects where feasible.

7



C. Regulatory  
& Environmental  
Compliance

Provided environmental regulatory compliance support for end of year activities at the Freeman Diversion including coordinating with NMFS and CDFW to develop and implement preventative measures to support end of year maintenance activities. (also applies to Goal B)

Supported Freeman Diversion Sediment and Algae Management by executing Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) authorizing activities on August 7, 2020. (also applies to Goals B and G)

Prepared and submitted District's Annual Whitewater Boating Access Plan as required by FERC.

Sanitary Survey Inspection of the Oxnard Hueneme system by State Water Resources Control Board and Division of Drinking Water.

Coordinated the Ventura County Regional Hazardous Materials Site Familiarization and training to ensure proper and effective emergency response measures by local first responders. (also applies to Goals E, F and G)


Led nationwide DHS Dam Safety Sector information sharing drill which satisfies the FERC Exercise requirement for the next five years. (also applies to Goals E, F and G)

Completed the construction of the Pothole Trailhead Parking Area. (also applies to Goal F)

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4





D. Fiscal Responsibility

Goal Statement: *Protect current and future value of District resources in a transparent, timely and accurate fashion while adhering to all applicable legal, ethical and government accounting standards.*

Strategic Objectives:

D1

Create a robust, long-range Financial Strategic Plan that illustrates a path to financial sustainability.

D2

Increase financial resources available to fund District initiatives through improvement of debt capacity, expansion of grant awards and partnerships with adjacent government authorities; optimize all available mechanisms for raising revenue, including limited-term taxes, development fees and facility use fees (at Lake Piru).

D3


Improve the visibility of District finances to the public, the Board of Directors and District management through accurate, timely and relevant reporting.

D4


Assure appropriate use of financial resources through sound, fact-based analysis and appropriate monitoring and reporting of District expenditures.

D5

Maintain financial controls, regular reviews and documentation to ensure compliance with government accounting standards.



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D. Fiscal Responsibility

In accordance with District Policy, engaged and shared information and documentation with new audit firm, which provided positive independent audit results (no deficiencies or findings) and delivered a streamlined *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)*.


Sale of 2020 Certificates of Participation—refinanced existing debt for PV savings of \$3.5M while raising \$19M cash, which will support District capital projects for the next two to three years.

Negotiated a Contributed Fund Agreement (CFA) with the Bureau of Reclamation for development of a Physical Modeling Plan, which was submitted to agencies in accordance with the Wishtoyo stipulation deadline. (also applies to Goal E)

Certificate of Transparency from the Special District Leadership Foundation which demonstrates District’s commitment to transparency in governance to public and also reduces District insurance rates through SDRMA. (also applies to Goal E and F)

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E. Regional Partnerships & Leadership

Goal Statement: *Work collaboratively with local jurisdictions, agencies and stakeholders to provide cost-effective water-supply solutions.*

Strategic Objectives:




**E1** Build and strengthen partnerships and coalitions with all stakeholders (e.g., GMAs, GSAs, cities, water agencies, Ventura County, neighbor groups, Non-Government Organizations, Department of Water Resources, State Water Resources Quality Control Board, United States Navy, United States Department of Fish and Wildlife, agriculture and business communities).

**E2** Maintain advocacy efforts at federal, state and local levels.

**E3** Strengthen partnerships with other water agencies and municipalities to fund future Article 21 water and capital projects of regional significance.

**E4** Develop cooperative agreements with local and regional agencies for projects that provide regional benefits.

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E. Regional Partnerships & Leadership

Family Farm Alliance.

Co-chair Santa Clara Watershed Coalition.

Leadership meetings with Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency.

Received the Navy's Letter of Intent to Support the Brackish Groundwater Extraction and Treatment project.

Strengthening relationship with City of Ventura and Casitas MWD regarding mutually beneficial management of State Water Project.

Supported GSAs within the District in development and/or implementation of GSPs, including:


- providing water level and water quality data sets so basin conditions can be characterized;
- draft basin setting and monitoring chapters for MBGSA;
- presentations at board meetings and workshops. (also applies to Goal F)

Participate in FCGMA Core stakeholder group including the Legal ad hoc and Projects Committees. (also applies to Goal F)

Led effort with local Joint Regional Intelligence Agency to conduct a Security Assessment of the Santa Felicia Dam, El Rio Water Treatment Facility, and District HQ office in an effort to improve safety and security efforts districtwide, mitigating risk to the greatest extent possible. (also applies to Goals F and G)

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6






F. Communications  
& Community  
Outreach


Goal Statement: *Promote awareness and understanding of the District’s mission, programs and priority projects to raise the District’s profile and credibility with customers and constituencies.*

Strategic Objectives:

- F1** Continue efforts to educate stakeholders, taxpayers, and elected officials on the true cost of water and our role as UWCD to ensure water reliability.
- F2** Promote technical expertise of UWCD staff as value to stakeholders.
- F3** Maintain and distribute cohesive messaging on District issues at all levels of representation (i.e., staff, Board, consultants) and across all mediums.
- F4** Build support for infrastructure replacement and a future bond measure.
- F5** Create new drought awareness to support a more robust water supply.
- F6** Promote recreational use of the reservoir.
- F7** Seek and work collaboratively with groups of shared interest to enhance collaboration.



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F. Communications  
& Community  
Outreach

Presented June AWA Virtual WaterWise event - Keep Water Flowing: Realizing Regional Water Sustainability, updating participants on the District’s projects introduced at the Water Sustainability Summit in February.




Designed and launched District’s new website.

Designed, fabricated and installed Lake Piru Recreation Area signage along Highway 126.


Responded to and implemented emergency management and public information practices during several wildfires in the area.

Trespassing and Litter Mitigation Project on Santa Clara River, encompassing litter clean-up and removal, No Trespassing signs installation, and removal of vagrant encampments.

Organized a “virtual” 5K Run/Walk to promote Lake Piru Recreation Area




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Goal Statement: *Increase UWCD’s organizational capacity to meet current and future challenges.*

Strategic Objectives:

- G1** Improve administrative efficiencies.
- G2** Build staff capacity
- G3** Hire and retain the best, most technically competent staff.
- G4** Develop recruitments plans for key and strategic positions.
- G5** Continue efforts to make Board meetings more efficient.
- G6** Advance workforce excellence and capability: Leverage technology, management and innovation to implement a culture of continuous improvement.
- G7** Establish and implement an energy efficiency program targeting continual improvement.



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AP functions streamlined and transitioned to electronic transactions, resulting in a reduction of FTE dedicated to AP from two to one; expanded number of vendors paid through ACH (rather than written paper check payments); form 1099s now submitted electronically to IRS; and bi-weekly paystubs now distributed electronically to all staff.

Collaborated with department heads to hire three new full-time employees and six new part time employees.

Processed 11 internal promotions and seven title changes resulting from new organization structure developed.

Officially joined and began active participation in the FBI's Cyberhood Watch program as well as the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC).

Pro-actively prepared for staff transition to remote working.

Reorganized duties of Finance staff to accommodate Controller leave of absence.

COVID-19:

- notification and implementation of all HR and Safety efforts implemented due to COVID-19 pandemic mitigation efforts;
- keeping management apprised of local and state public health requirements and guidelines;
- providing staff with personal protection equipment and follow-up with staff regarding questions and concerns.

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**United Water**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

DECEMBER 2020 RECAP

1




2



ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

- 385 payables processed with a total amount of \$1.9M
  - Includes \$1M to GEI Consultants for design services on SFD outlet and spillway




FINANCE DIVISION RECAP

PAYROLL

- Paid 26 payroll-related vendors a total amount of \$468K
- 583 hours of overtime worked
  - 3.8% of regular hours
  - 291 paid-out
  - 292 accrued as compensatory time

Gross: \$786K

Net: \$542K



UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 3

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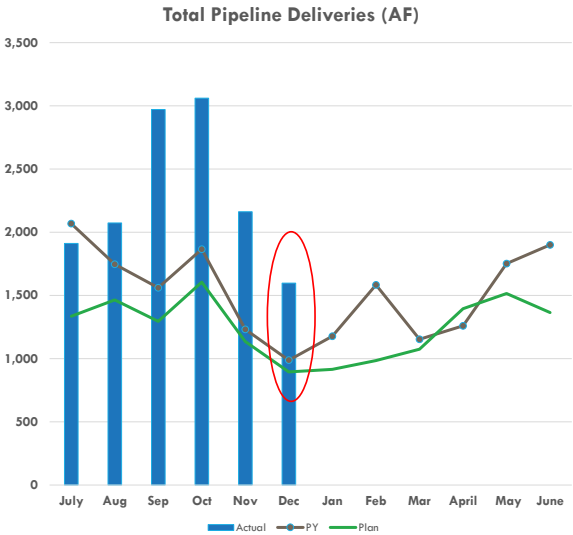
DECEMBER 2020 PIPELINE

	\$ Billed	Actual AF	Plan AF	Variance
OH	\$673K	1,059	605	454
PT	\$264K	525	290	235
PV	\$13K	13	0	13

- Year-to-date December deliveries 78% ahead of Plan and 46% over PY
- 92% of FY Plan delivered to date
- Excluding Pleasant Valley deliveries, volumes 46%, 21% ahead of Plan & PY

FINANCE DIVISION RECAP

Total Pipeline Deliveries (AF)



Month	Actual	PY	Plan
July	1900	2100	1300
Aug	2100	1700	1500
Sep	3000	1600	1300
Oct	3100	1800	1600
Nov	2200	1200	1200
Dec	1600	1000	900
Jan		1200	900
Feb		1600	1000
Mar		1100	1100
April		1300	1300
May		1700	1500
June		1900	1400

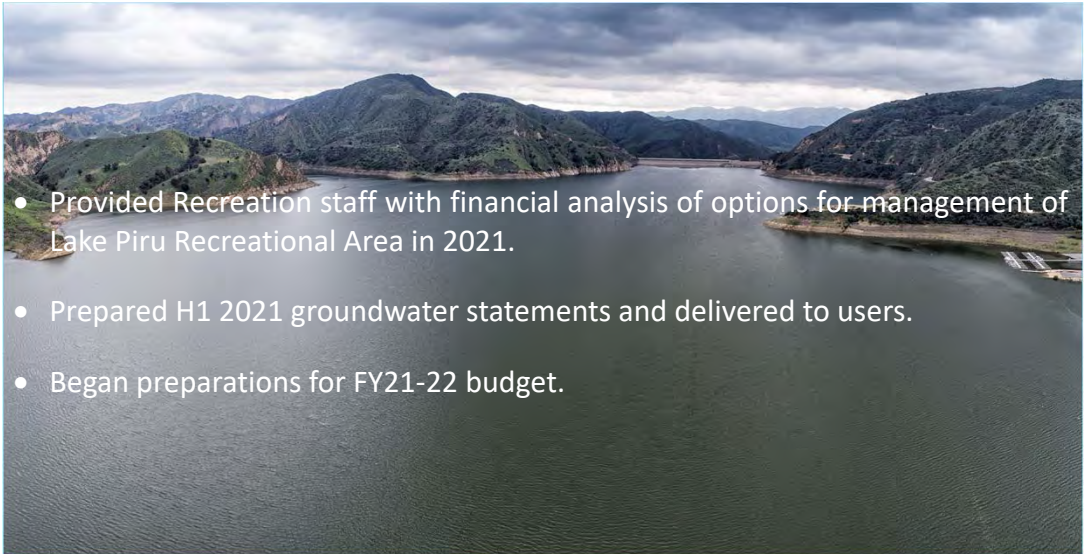
UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 4

4

## UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 5

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 6

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- Provided Recreation staff with financial analysis of options for management of Lake Piru Recreational Area in 2021.
- Prepared H1 2021 groundwater statements and delivered to users.
- Began preparations for FY21-22 budget.

FINANCE DIVISION RECAP

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 7


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ADMINISTRATIVE  
DIVISION  
RECAP

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 8

8




ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION RECAP

- Processed onboarding paperwork for new Board Member.
- Coordinated order and pickup of annual service awards for eligible employees.
- Completed draft job descriptions for potential new positions within the District in anticipation of their use for the FY20-21 and FY21-22 year.
- Chief Operations Officer posted, and interviews completed.
- Processed employee evaluations, promotions, and step increases that were scheduled for December.
- Submitted and processed 2021 flexible spending plan for staff to be effective January 1, 2021.
- Updated 2021 health insurance rates into Incode to reflect 2021 rates for all health plans.
- Processed several end of year updates (SDI, SUI, misc. allowances, etc.) into Incode.

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION RECAP

- Reviewed and issued Rangers Policy Manual Updates and Monthly, Daily Training Bulletins covering topics such as protests and use of force.
- Completed draft of updated Injury & Illness Prevention Plan (IIPP).
- Completed update to COVID-19 Prevention Plan.
- Secured Additional Face Masks (cloth masks and KN95s) for District staff.
- Presented two monthly safety meetings, covering Confined Space and Industrial Ergonomics, as well as COVID-19 updates.
- Coordinated respirator fit testing for new District staff.

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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- Supported Engineering Department with FERC Annual Compliance Letter on security matters pertaining to Santa Felicia Dam.
- Investigated and resolved camera and access control system troubleshooting issues
- Completed two additional OSHA courses (accident investigation and transitioning to safe chemicals) to achieve credits/cost savings for insurance premiums.
- Assisted Environmental Services with essential services designation for upcoming Freeman Rehab Project.
- In Conjunction with Operations and Maintenance Manager, completed certification of Risk and Resilience Assessment to EPA.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION RECAP

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 11

11





- Made progress towards Active Directory Replacement from 2008 to 2016 Operating System.
- Replaced expiring RSA Multi Factor Keychain tokens with O&M Operators and provided new RSA tokens to newest operators.
- Supported Environmental Services staff to troubleshoot Ethernet and PC Connections for fish monitoring and recording equipment at Freeman Diversion.
- Migrated GM and CFO cellular service to AT&T's First Responders (FirstNet) service program and issued new devices.
- Provided IT Support for nine virtual meetings.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION RECAP

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 12

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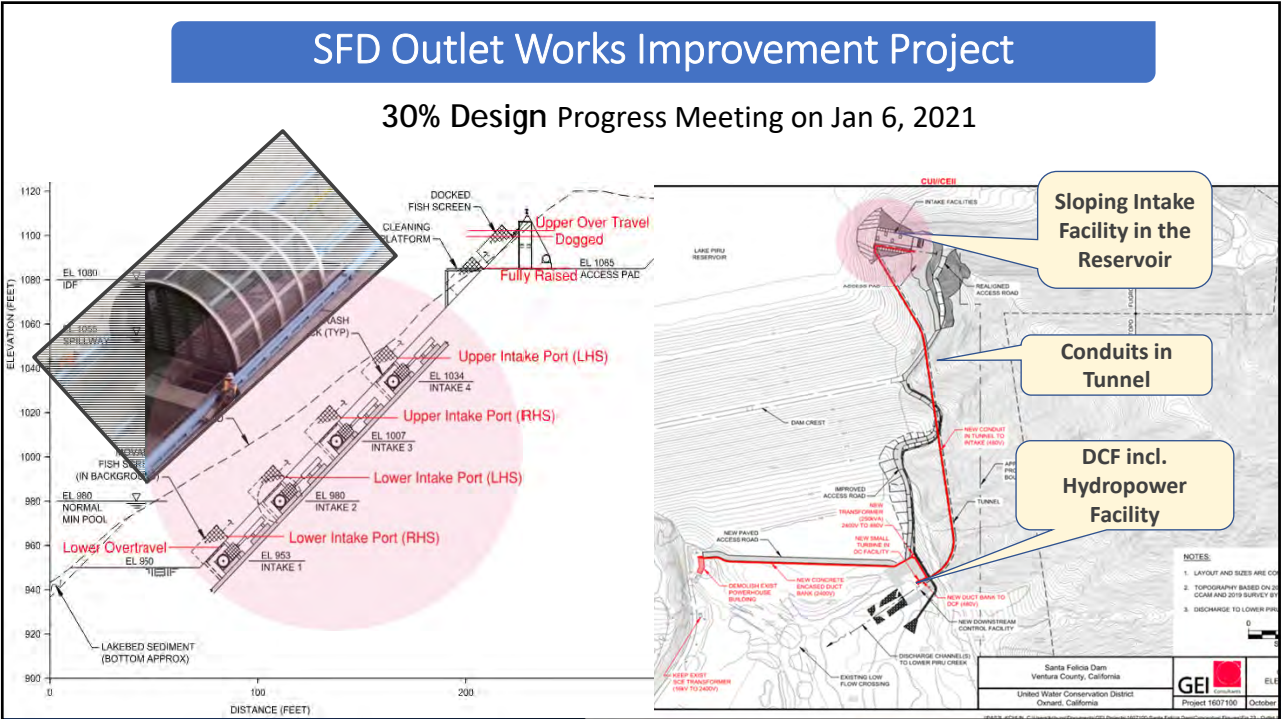
- Installed conferencing PC in the General Manager’s office for Teams, and all other virtual meeting suites used by District partners and agencies.
- Purchased and installed Xerox all-in one-color printer for the Lake Piru Recreation Area Rangers.
- Installed networking equipment at the Lake Piru Recreation Area Rangers Office to support planned activities and communications requirements.
- Worked with service providers to repair area-wide internet service outage on December 15th.
- Supported District employees virtual holiday party over Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting product.
- Solar Winds hacking - no direct impact to the District.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION RECAP

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 13



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### Pothole Trailhead Parking Area

- ❑ Construction period: Dec 3 – Dec 31
- ❑ Substantial Completion by Dec 31
  - Grading, Subgrade compaction, aggregate base installation and perimeter boulders

Compliance with FERC License Requirements, meeting FERC's deadline on Dec 31, 2020

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# El Rio Well Replacement Program

## El Rio Well No. 6 Replacement

### Project Schedule:

Bid Release: Dec 22, 2020

Bids Due: Jan 21, 2021

Notice of Award: Feb 10, 2021

Notice to Proceed: Mar 1, 2021

Completion: Jun 30, 2021



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# OH System Emergency Backup Generator

## Project Schedule

Notice of Grant Award: Nov 10

Kick off meeting: Dec 2

Grant agreement approval: Dec 18

100% Design: Jan 11, 2021

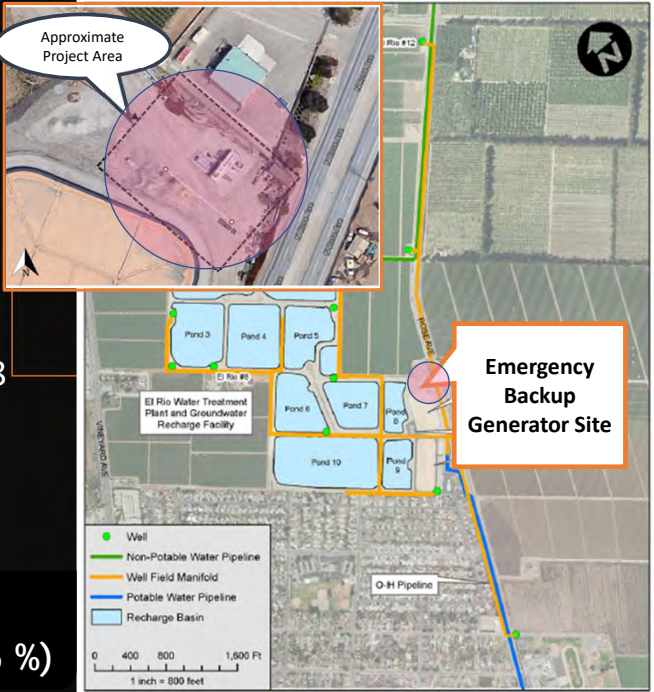
Bid Release: Jan 15, 2021

Bids Due: Feb 16, 2021

Completion: Aug 26, 2021

**Grant Amount: \$646,537**

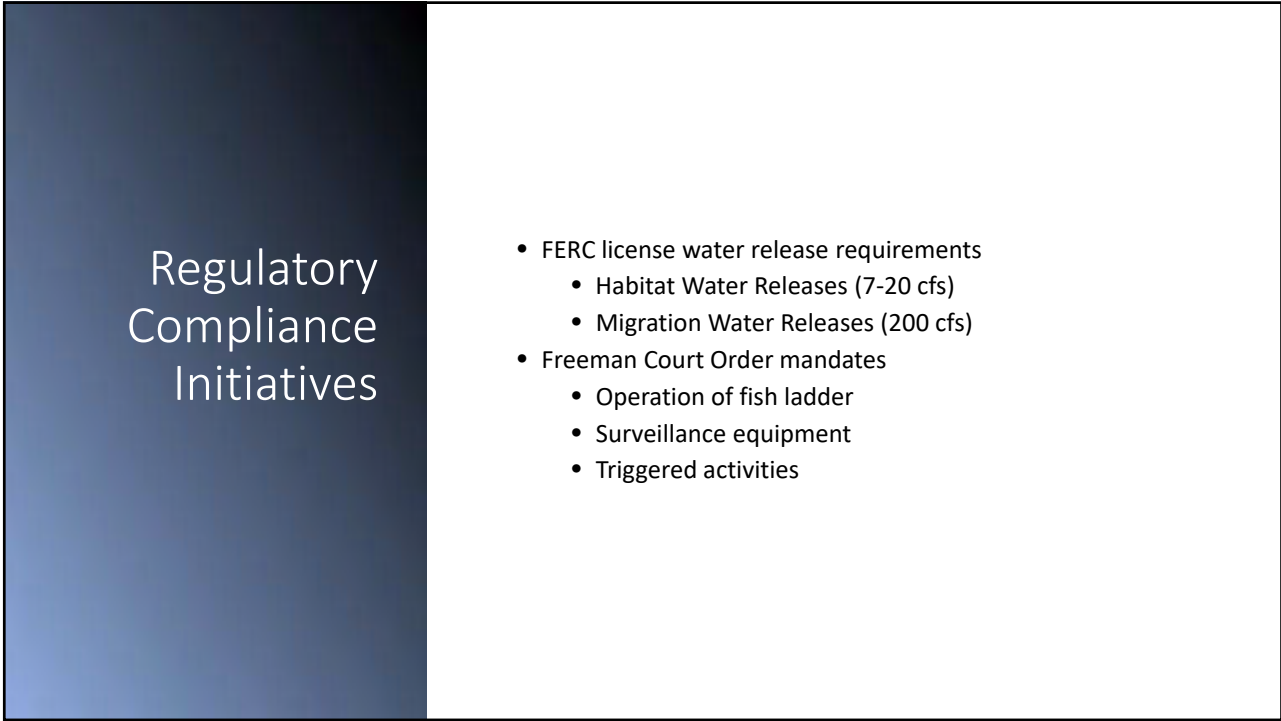
**Non-Federal Share: 215,513 (25 %)**



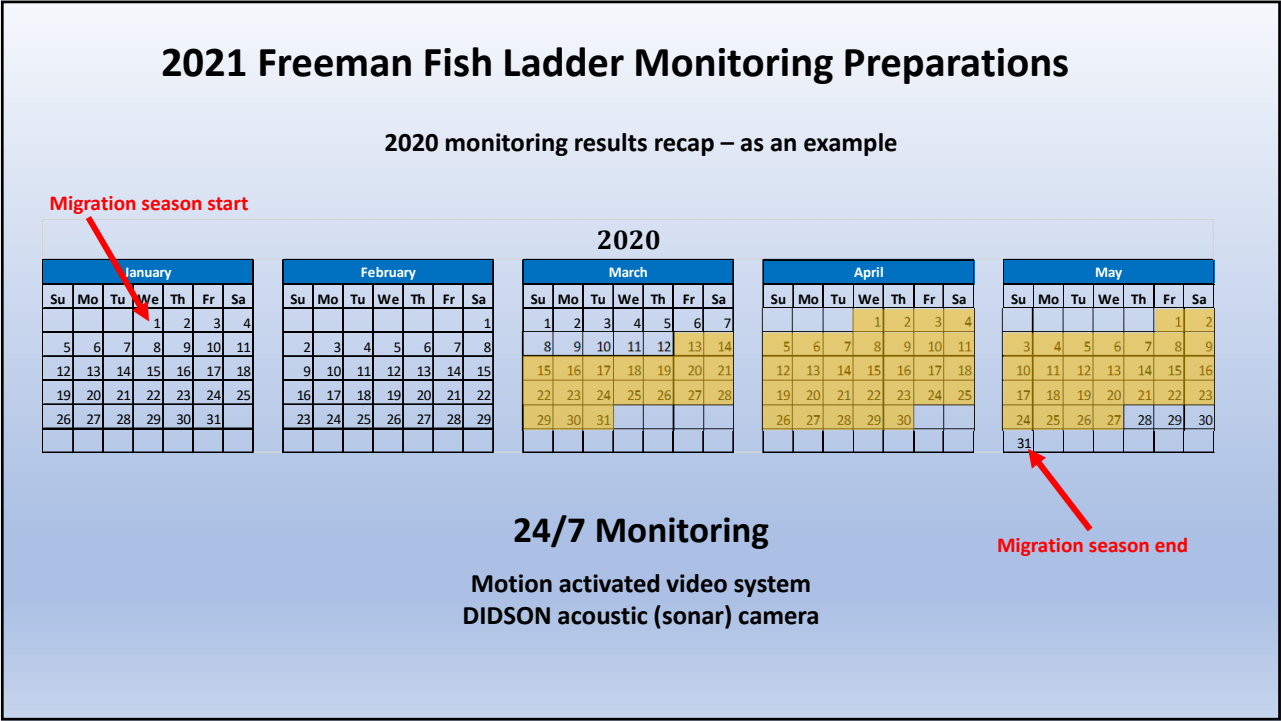
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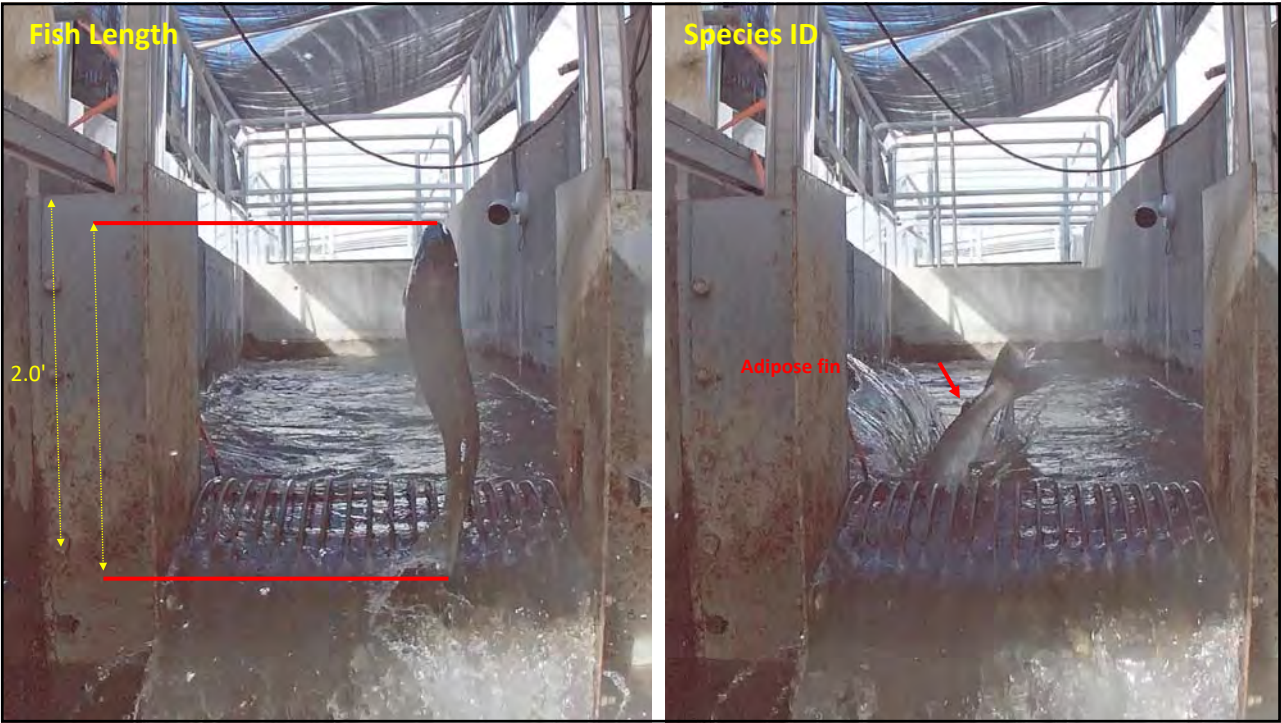


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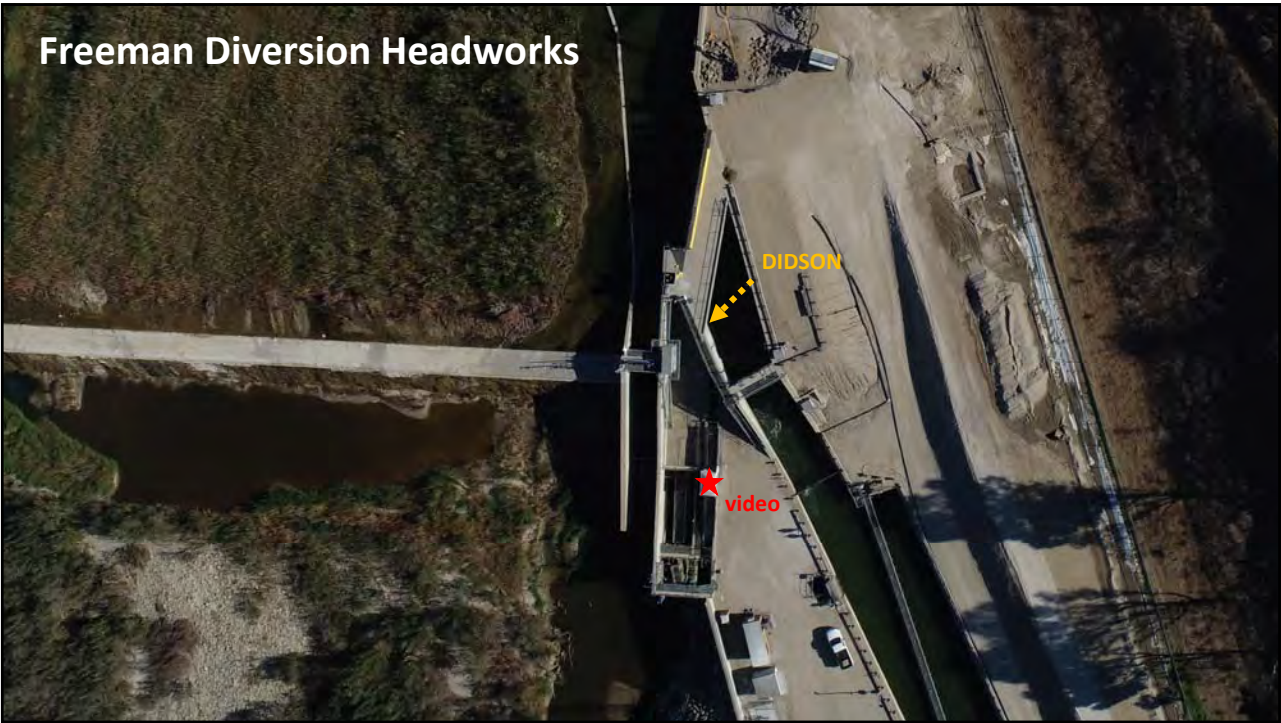


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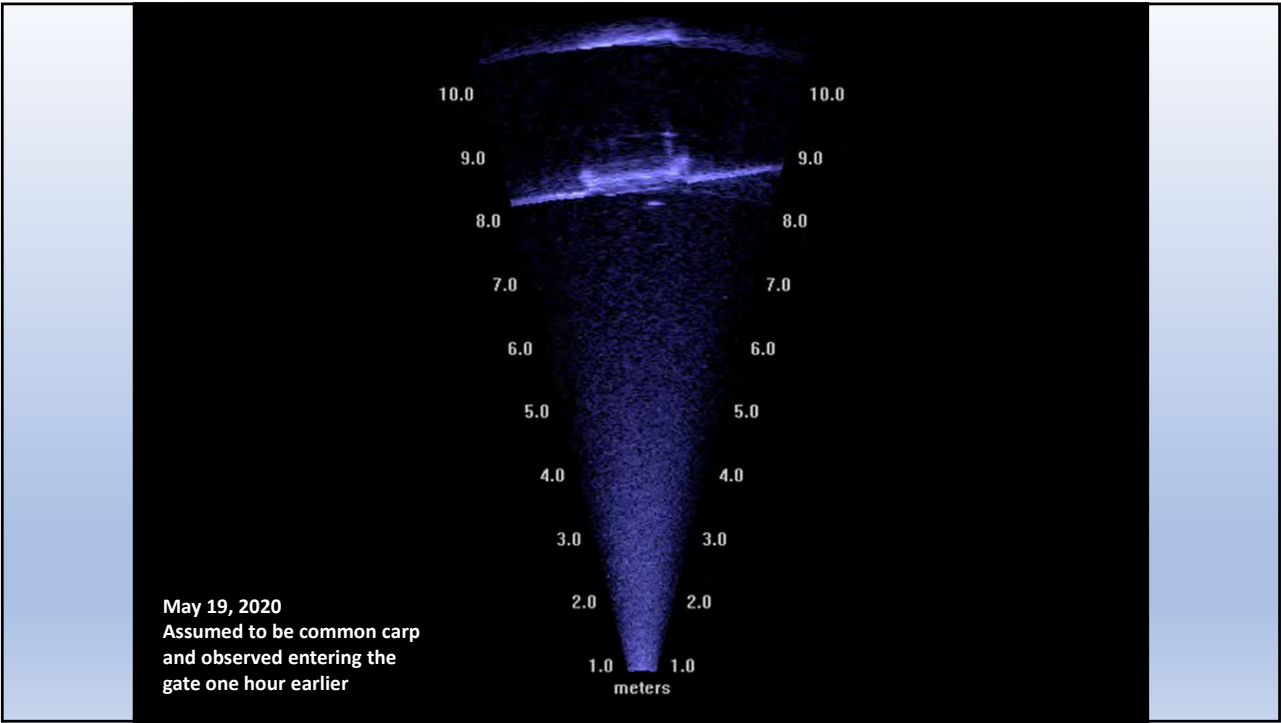




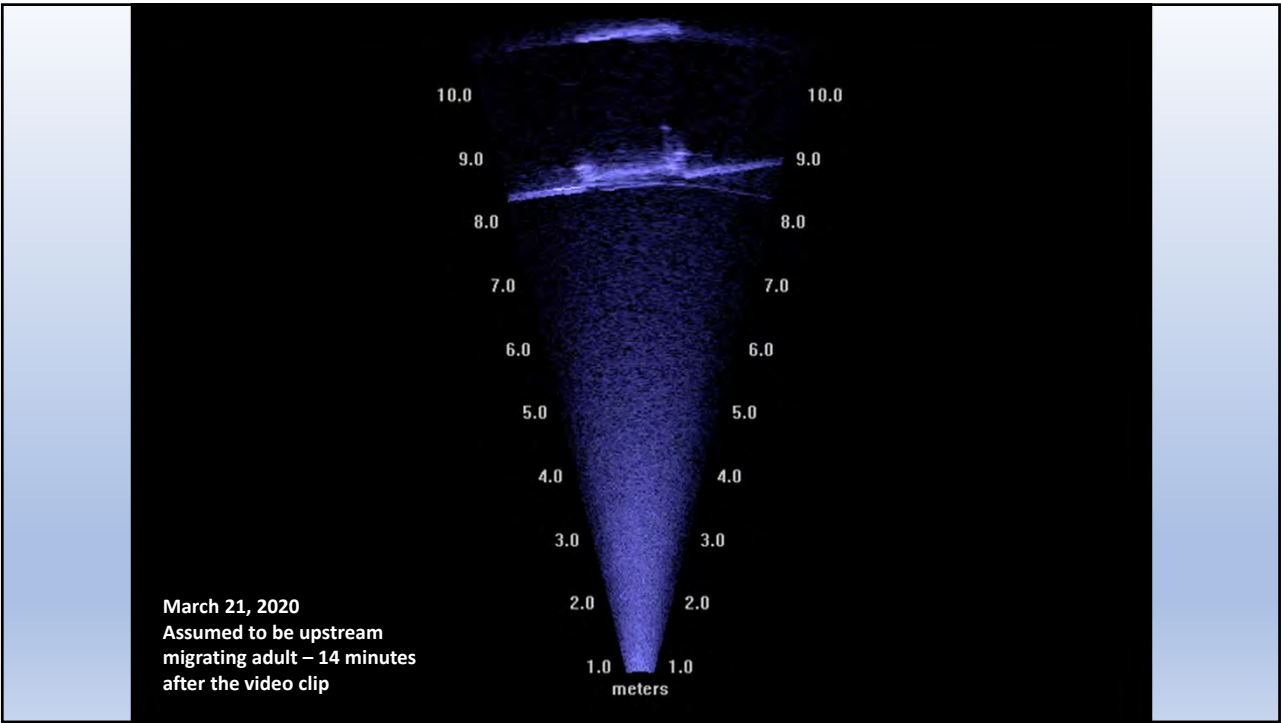
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### Reviewing Monitoring Footage is Time Intensive

2020 monitoring results as an example

#### Video Surveillance


2082 total clips (~18 hours)

- 6 fish
  - 3 upstream migrating *O. mykiss*
    - 2 adults, 1 smolt
  - 3 common carp
- 28 birds
- 246 bugs
- LOTS of splashing
- 1 two-striped garter snake
- 1 western pond turtle

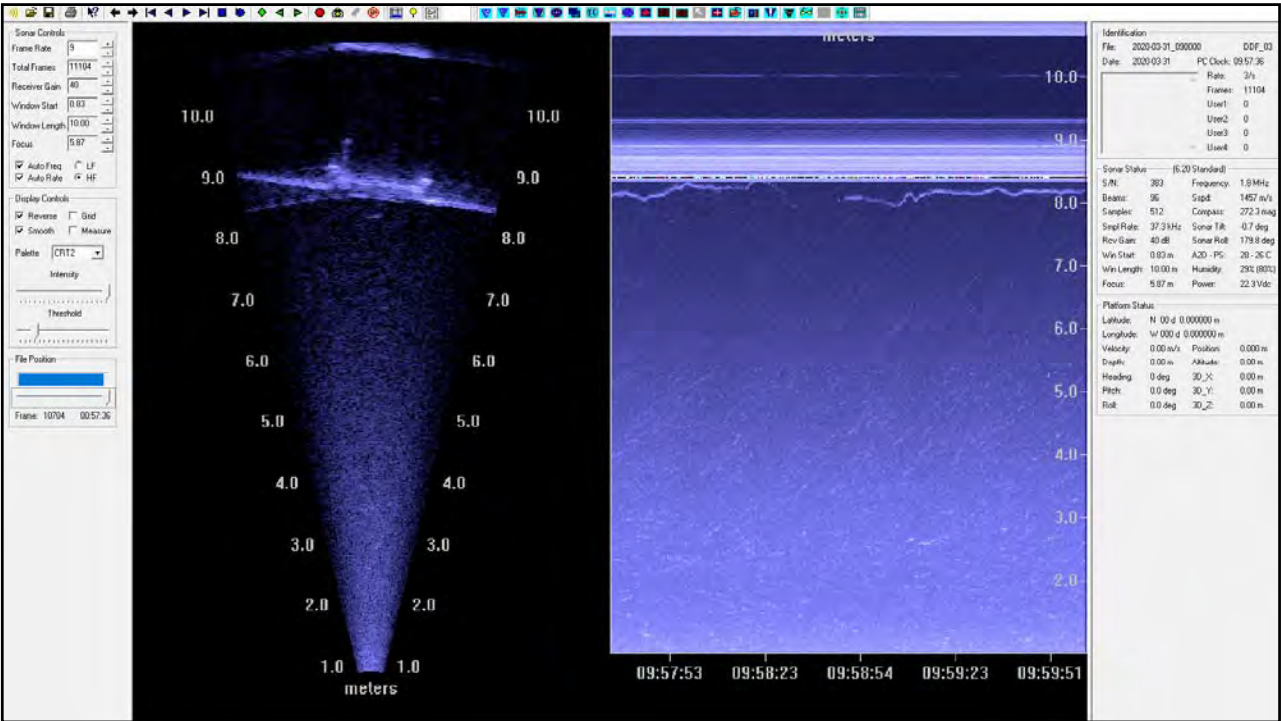
#### DIDSON Footage

1675 total hours (69.8 days) of footage for review

428 individual observations of fish



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### 2021 Monitoring Preparations


- ✓ Video and DIDSON footage review protocols
- ✓ Establish cloud database backup
- ✓ Test – troubleshoot – resolve surveillance system issues
- ✓ Provide remote access for footage review (COVID-19 precaution)
- ✓ Develop Survey123 app for field use and data organization

Daily During Fish Ladder Operation

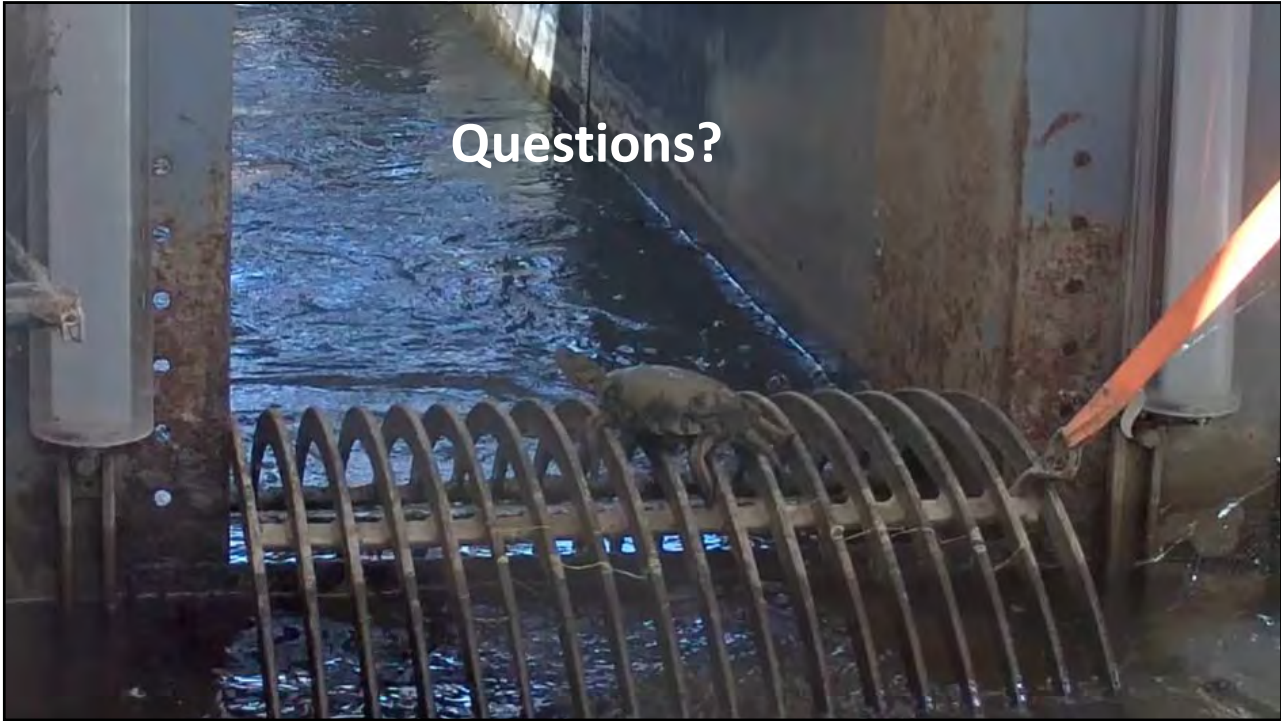
- Review acquired footage
- Check, clean, and replace DIDSON if necessary
- Test IR beams and video upload
- General facility visual check

- Prepare for snorkel surveys in Piru Creek below Santa Felicia
  - 1x monthly; 2x weekly for 4 weeks following detection at Freeman



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