



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

**AGENDA**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 12:00 P.M.**  
**Board Room, UWCD Headquarters**  
**1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030**

Meeting attendees should be aware that the meetings of the Board are, as required by law, open to the public and the District has very limited powers to regulate who attends Board meetings. Therefore, attendees must exercise their own judgement with respect to protecting themselves from exposure to COVID-19, as the District cannot ensure that all attendees at public meetings will be free from COVID-19.

**In addition to its public Regular Board of Directors meeting,  
people may choose to participate virtually  
using the Webex video conferencing application.**

**To participate in the Board of Directors meeting via Webex, please access:**  
[https://unitedwaterconservationdistrict.my.webex.com/unitedwaterconservationdistrict.my/j.php?  
MTID=m24ae5db158b3b25f5fb45bb9ca5412ca](https://unitedwaterconservationdistrict.my.webex.com/unitedwaterconservationdistrict.my/j.php?MTID=m24ae5db158b3b25f5fb45bb9ca5412ca)

**Use Meeting number:** 126 404 6142      **Password:** Direct (347328 from phones)  
**Join by phone** (audio only): +1-408-418-9388 (Toll rates apply) **Password:** Direct (347328)

**BOARD MATTERS**

*Normally, Action (Motion) Items will be considered and acted upon separately; Consent Items will be considered and acted upon collectively, although a Consent Item may be considered and acted upon separately;  
and Information Items will be considered separately without action.  
The Board of Directors in its discretion may change the order of agenda items.*

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

Items to be discussed in Executive (Closed) Session will be announced.

**1.1    Public Comments  
Information Item**

Members of the public may address the Board on any matter on the Closed Session agenda or on any non-agenda item within the jurisdiction of the Board. All comments are subject to a five-minute time limit. Virtual participants, please use "raise hand" option in "participants" menu.

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

The Board will discuss matters outlined in the attached Executive (Closed) Session Agenda (Exhibit A).

**2. SECOND OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER 1:00 P.M.**

**2.1    Pledge of Allegiance**

**2.2 Public Comment  
Information Item**

Members of the public may address the Board on any item on the Consent Calendar or on any non-agenda item within the jurisdiction of the Board. No action will be taken by the Board on any non-agenda item. All comments are subject to a five-minute time limit.

**2.3 Approval of Agenda  
Motion**

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

Presented by District Legal Counsel David D. Boyer.

**2.5 Board Communication  
Information Item**

Board members may present non-agenda information including, but not limited to, the following: 1) meetings, workshops, conferences and functions attended during the previous month on behalf of the District; 2) meetings, workshops, conferences and functions Directors plan to attend in the upcoming months; and 3) possible conflicts that Directors might have with respect to issues on the Agenda.

**2.6 General Manager's Report  
Information Item**

The General Manager will present information on his activities of possible interest to the Board and that may have consequence to the District.

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

The Board will receive 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, CA Governor Newsom and President Biden regarding the COVID-19 virus.

**2.8 Public Hearing**

**Proposed Ordinance No. 25 - Consideration to Increase the Compensation of the Board of Directors**

**Motion**

Open Public Hearing and receive public comments on the proposed adoption of Ordinance No. 25, approving an increase in the Board of Director's per diem from \$226 to \$237 per day. After receiving public comments, Board may move to close the Public Hearing and agenda adoption of Ordinance No. 25 at the March 10, 2021 Regular Board meeting. If approved at the March 10, 2021 Regular Board meeting, the increase in the Director's per diem will take effect in 60 days (May 12, 2021).

**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 Revised Minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of December 9, 2020 and the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 13, 2021.

**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.

**D. Second Quarter Fiscal Year Financial Report and Budget Amendments (July 1 – December 31, 2020)**

**Information Item**

The Board will review the FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Report for the period of July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, review the monthly investment report, and consider approving budget modifications as recommended.

**3.E Standing Committee Assignments and Appointments of Board Representation to Outside Agencies**

**Motion**

The President will appoint membership for the District's 2021 standing committees and appoint representatives and alternates to the following organizations: Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Board of Directors; Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Water Issues Committee; Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency; Ventura County Special Districts Association; Oxnard Chamber Water Committee; and ACWA JPIA Board of Directors.

**3.F Resolution 2021-04 Requesting the Amendment of the District's List of Authorized Signers and Updating the District's Mailing Address on the District's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) account with the California State Treasurer's Office**

**Motion**

The Board will consider approving Resolution 2021-04 requesting the amendment of the District's list of authorized signers and updating the District's mailing address on the District's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) account with the California State Treasurer's Office.

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

**Engineering Department – Dr. Maryam Bral**

**4.1 El Rio Water Well No. 19 Construction Project Contract Award to Best Drilling and Pump, Inc.**

**Motion**

The Board will consider awarding a contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Best Drilling and Pump, Inc., in the amount of \$450,774.00, and authorizing the General Manager to execute the contract with Best Drilling and Pump, Inc. for the construction of El Rio Water Well No. 19.

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

**Operations and Maintenance – Brian Collins**

**5.1 Monthly Operation and Maintenance Department Report**

**Information Item**

Staff report and presentation to the Board regarding the monthly operations and maintenance of District facilities including Santa Felicia Dam and hydroplant; the Piru Groundwater Recharge facility; the Freeman Diversion Dam; the Saticoy and El Rio Groundwater Recharge facilities; the Pleasant Valley and Pumping Trough Pipeline systems; and the Oxnard-Hueneme Pipeline system. The report covers operating plans, the quantity and quality of water diverted and delivered, fish ladder status, major maintenance problems and repairs, status of O&M projects and safety and training issues.

**Park and Recreation Division – Clayton Strahan**

**5.2 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report**

**Information Item**

Staff report and presentation to the Board regarding operations and items of note relative to the Lake Piru Recreation Area. Items may include, but are not limited to future concessionaire agreements, camping and boating policies at the lake; operations and activities; financing and status of facility improvement projects; maintenance activities; security issues; and emergency response activities.

**Water Resources Department – Maryam Bral**

**5.3 Monthly Water Resources Department Report**

**Information Item**

Staff report and presentation to the Board on the recommendations set forth by the OPV Core Stakeholders Projects Committee related to proposed basin optimization water sustainability projects and follow up steps related to initial feasibility assessment of selected projects.

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

**Information Item**

Staff report and presentation to the Board 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). Staff may also report on state-wide issues related to the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014.

**Administrative Services Department - Anthony Emmert**

**5.5 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report – Anthony Emmert**

**Information Item**

Summary report on Administration Department activities including issues associated with budget development, financial performance versus budget plan, financial accounting requirements and procedures, potential debt issuance and related financial services, status of District investments and reserves, updates on its capital improvement programs, human resources and safety, District property and facilities maintenance and administration, the search for new District offices, District records and reports, groundwater extraction statements administration, risk management and District liability insurance matters, management of District contracts, policy development, governance procedures, and supporting activities of Board and staff.

**Engineering Department – Maryam Bral**

**5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report  
Information Item**

Summary report on various water resources, planning efforts and department programs affecting the District, including, but not limited to design and construction; dam safety; FERC license compliance; Freeman Diversion; recycled water; pipeline operations and various engineering analysis.

**Environmental Services Department – Linda Purpus**

**5.7 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report  
Information Item**

Summary report on environmental and regulatory issues of note to the District. The report will include water releases, operations of the fish ladder at the Freeman Diversion, various monitoring efforts, study plans and issues associated with the Endangered Species Act, including the Section 10 MSHCP process, future fish passage requirements, compliance with the District's FERC license/Biological Opinion, the Santa Felicia Dam, studies and operations in and near Piru Creek, any interactions with Rancho Temescal and Rancho Camulos.

**6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS READING FILE**

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

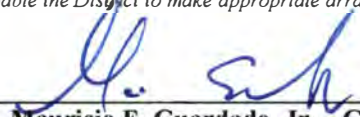
**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board will adjourn to the **Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, 2021** or call of the President.

*All testimony given before the Board of Directors is recorded. Materials, which are non-exempt public records and are provided to the Board of Directors to be used in consideration of the above agenda items, including any documents provided subsequent to the publishing of this agenda, are available for inspection at the District's offices at 1701 N. Lombard Street, Suite 200, Oxnard CA 93030 during normal business hours.*

*The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the District's services, programs or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, or if you require agenda materials in an alternative format, please contact the District Office at (805) 525-4431. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements.*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

  
**Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr. – General Manager**

Posted: (date) February 5, 2021

(time) 5:30p.m.

(attest) *Kris Sofley*

At: United Water Conservation District Headquarters, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030

Posted: (date) February 5, 2021

(time) 5:45p.m.

(attest) *Kris Sofley*

At: [www.unitedwater.org](http://www.unitedwater.org)

**EXHIBIT A**  
**EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION AGENDA**

**1. LITIGATION**

**1.1 Conference with Legal Counsel-Anticipated Litigation**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), one (1) case.

**1.2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)

A. City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District, et al,  
Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI00401714

B. City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District, et al,  
Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. 1414739 (consolidated for  
purposes of trial with case in subsection A.)

Note: 1.2 A and B consolidated in the California Supreme Court, 2<sup>nd</sup> Civil No. S226036, Review granted on June 24, 2015 of published decision of Division Six, Second District of the Court of Appeal of the State of California, 2d Civil No. B251810.

C. City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District, et al,  
Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. 1467531

D. Wishtoyo Foundation, et al v. United Water Conservation District, U.S.  
District Court for the Central District of California, Case No.2:16-cv-  
03869 GHK (PLAx)

E. Josey Hollis Dorsey, a minor, through his guardian ad litem Ryan Dorsey;  
and The Estate of Naya Rivera, through its personal representative, Justin  
Stiegemeier, v. County of Ventura, a California public entity; United Water  
Conservation District, a California public entity; and Parks and Recreation  
Management, d/b/a Parks Management Company, a California corporation;  
and Does 1-20, inclusive, Superior Court of the State of California for the  
County of Ventura Case No. 56-2020-00547077-CU-PO-VTA



**Staff Report UWCD Board of**

**To:** Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021 Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 2.5 Board Communication  
**Information Item**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

Receive information provided by the Board of Directors and review the calendar of upcoming District meetings and events.

**Discussion:**

This item is provided on the agenda of each regular District Board of Directors meeting in order to allow Directors to present non-agenda information including, but not limited to, the following:

1. UWCD Committee participation – Committee Chair to report on Committee’s objectives and actions to Board.
2. Meetings, workshops, conferences and functions attended during the previous month on behalf of the District.
3. Meetings, workshops, conferences and functions Directors plan to attend in the upcoming months.
4. Possible conflicts that Directors might have with respect to issues on the Agenda.

A calendar of scheduled District meetings and other events for 2021 is attached, along with the AWA-VC calendar for 2021.

Attachments: A – 2021 Calendar of District's Standing Committee and Outside Agency meetings  
B -- 2021 AWA VC Meeting and Events Calendar





# United Water

## CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### 2021 UWCD Standing Committee and Outside Agencies Meeting Dates

**JANUARY:** 04 - Legislative and Outreach (9am-10:15am)

05- Water Resources (9am-11:15am)  
06- Recreation (9am-9:48am)  
07- Engineering and Operations (9am-10:05am)  
12- Finance and Audit (9:04am-10:08am)  
13- Board Meeting (12noon-4:55pm)  
20- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
21- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)  
27- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**FEBRUARY:** 02- Water Resources (9am)

03- Recreation (9am)  
04- Engineering and Operations (9am)  
09- Finance and Audit (9am)  
10- Board Meeting (12noon)  
17- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
18- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)  
24- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**MARCH:** 02- Water Resources (9am)

03- Recreation (9am)  
04- Engineering and Operations (9am)  
09- Finance and Audit (9am)  
10- Board Meeting (12noon)  
17- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
18- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)  
24- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**APRIL:** 01- Engineering and Operations (9am)

05- Legislative and Outreach (9am)  
06- Water Resources (9am)  
07- Recreation (9am)  
13- Finance and Audit (9am)  
14- Board Meeting (12noon)  
21- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
22- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)  
28- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**MAY:** 04 - Water Resources (9am)

05- Recreation (9am)  
06- Engineering and Operations (9am)  
11- Finance and Audit (9am)  
12- Board Meeting (12noon)  
19- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
20- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)  
26- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**JUNE:** 01 - Water Resources (9am)

02- Recreation (9am)  
03- Engineering and Operations (9am)  
08- Finance and Audit (9am)  
09- Board Meeting (12noon)  
16- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
17- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)

**JUNE, continued:** 23- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**JULY:** 01 - Engineering and Operations (9am)

05- Legislative and Outreach (9am)  
06- Water Resources (9am)  
07- Recreation (9am)  
13- Finance and Audit (9am)  
14- Board Meeting (12noon)  
21- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
22- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)

28- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**AUGUST – UWCD is DARK**

18- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
19- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)  
25- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)  
31- Water Resources (9am)\*

**SEPTEMBER:** 01- Recreation (9am)

02- Engineering and Operations (9am)  
07- Finance and Audit (9am)  
08- Board Meeting (12noon)  
15- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
16- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)

22- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**OCTOBER:** 04 - Legislative and Outreach (9am)

05- Water Resources (9am)  
06- Recreation (9am)  
07- Engineering and Operations (9am)  
12- Finance and Audit (9am)  
13- Board Meeting (12noon)  
20- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
21- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)  
27- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)

**NOVEMBER:** 02 - Water Resources (9am)

03- Recreation (9am)  
04- Engineering and Operations (9am)  
09- Finance and Audit (9am)  
10- Board Meeting (12noon)  
17- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
18- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)  
30- Water Resources (9am)\*

**DECEMBER:** 01- Recreation (9am)

01- Fox Canyon GMA (1:30pm)  
02- Engineering and Operations (9am)  
07- Finance and Audit (9am)  
08- Board Meeting (12noon)  
15- CoLAB VC WHEEL (1pm)  
16- Mound Basin GSA (1pm)  
Fillmore and Piru Basin GSA (5pm)

\*scheduled to prevent dual meetings on the same day



# ASSOCIATION OF WATER AGENCIES OF VENTURA COUNTY

## 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

All meetings/events are confirmed by AWA via official notices sent prior to each meeting/event.

Note: All 2021 meetings/events will be via video-broadcast until further notice.

JANUARY	7	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	19	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	21	<b>WaterWise Program</b>	<b>8:00 am, Thursday</b>	
	27	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
FEBRUARY	4	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	16	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	18	<b>WaterWise Program</b>	<b>8:00 am, Thursday</b>	
	24	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
MARCH	4	Board Meeting (Annual Meeting-Elections)	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	16	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	18	<b>WaterWise Program (Installation/Directors)</b>	<b>8:00 am, Thursday</b>	
	24	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
APRIL	1	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	15	<b>WaterWise Program</b>	<b>8:00 am, Thursday</b>	
	20	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	28	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
MAY	6	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	18	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	20	<b>WaterWise Program</b>	<b>8:00 am, Thursday</b>	
	26	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
JUNE	3	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	15	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	17	<b>WaterWise Program</b>	<b>8:00 am, Thursday</b>	
	23	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
Date to be Confirmed	—	<b>CC/Water Systems Workshop (Confined Space)</b>	<b>8-Noon</b>	(Fire Dept-Camarillo)
JULY	1	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	15	<b>WaterWise Program</b>	<b>8:00 am, Thursday</b>	
	20	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	28	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
AUGUST		<b>DARK</b>		
SEPTEMBER	2	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	21	Water Issues Committee	8:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	22	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems Luncheon</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
Date to be Confirmed		<b>Math Workshop: Water Distribution Exam Review</b>	<b>8:00am-Noon</b>	
Date to be Confirmed	*30	<b>Reception for Members/Elected Officials</b>	<b>4:00 pm, Thursday</b>	(AWA Members/Guests Only)
OCTOBER	7	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	*21	<b>Annual Water Symposium &amp; Exposition</b>	<b>7:00am-1:00pm, Thurs.</b>	<b>Courtyard – Oxnard</b>
	*21	<b>Operators Tech Workshop &amp; Exposition</b>	<b>7:00 am-3:30pm, Thurs.</b>	<b>Courtyard – Oxnard</b>
	—	<b>Math Workshop: Water Treatment Exam Review</b>	<b>8:00am-Noon</b>	
NOVEMBER	4	Board Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	—	<b>Annual VC Water Supply Bus Tour</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	
	16	Water Issues Committee	7:00 am, Tuesday	(AWA Members Only)
	*17	<b>Channel Counties/Water Systems Lunch</b>	<b>8:00 am, Wednesday</b>	
	18	<b>WaterWise Breakfast Program</b>	<b>8:00 am, Thursday</b>	
DECEMBER	*09	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm, Thursday	
	09	<b>Holiday Mixer/Corporate Night</b>	<b>4:00 pm, Thursday</b>	(AWA Members/Guests Only)



**Staff Report UWCD**

**To:** Board of Directors

**From:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021 meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 2.6 General Manager's Report  
**Information Item**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

Receive an update from the General Manager related to items of possible interest to the Board and that may have consequences to the District.

**Discussion:**

The General Manager's primary responsibility is to ensure that the policies and directions of the Board of Directors are adhered to as he oversees and manages the efforts of the department managers and their staffs in the day-to-day operation and administration of the District. All of these efforts are to be consistent with the District's Mission Statement and within the fiscal constraints set by the Board of Directors.

The District's managers provide detailed monthly updates to the Board of Directors which outline projects' statuses, accomplishments, issues of concern, projects planning, etc. The monthly General Manager's report provides an opportunity for the General Manager to discuss issues that may impact the efforts of the separate departments as they pursue their defined goals and objectives. The report also provides the Board with information on the District's efforts and involvement in local, regional and state-wide issues.

Finally, the monthly General Manager's report offers the Board of Directors an overview of how their policies and directions are being administered through discussion of the work plan and efforts of the General Manager.



**Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager  
Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager

**From:** Josh Perez, HR Manager  
Tony Huynh, Safety and Security Program Coordinator

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021 Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 2.7 Update on Public Health Mandates Regarding Coronavirus Pandemic  
(COVID-19)  
**Information Item**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

The Board of Directors will receive 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 Governor Newsom and President Biden regarding the COVID-19 virus.



**Staff Report**

**To:** Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021 Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 2.8 **PUBLIC HEARING** Proposed Ordinance No. 25 –  
**Consideration to Increase Compensation of the Board of Directors**  
**Motion**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

Open Public Hearing and receive public comments on the proposed adoption of Ordinance No. 25, approving an increase in the Board of Director's per diem from \$226 to \$237 per day. After receiving public comments, Board may move to close the Public Hearing and agendize adoption of Ordinance No. 25 at the March 10, 2021 Regular Board meeting. If approved at the March 10, 2021 Regular Board meeting, the increase in the Director's per diem will take effect in 60 days (May 12, 2021).

**Discussion:**

Since 2020, District Directors have received \$226 per meeting, for up to ten meetings per month. California Water Code Section 20202 authorizes the Board to increase its compensation up to five percent annually. A full five percent increase would allow the per-meeting compensation to increase to no more than \$237.30.

Notice has been given in the Ventura County Star on Thursday, January 28, 2021 and on Thursday, February 4, 2021 (in accordance with notice requirements for this public hearing) to allow for the per diem to be increased by five percent, up to \$237.30, as permitted by law.

District staff surveyed other local water agencies and ascertained per diems paid to Directors as of 2019. As listed below, per diems were:

Calleguas MWD	\$225.00
Camrosa Water District	\$200.00
Casitas MWD	\$180.00
Las Virgenes MWD	\$220.00
Montecito Water District	\$184.00
Santa Clarita Valley Water	\$239.00

**2.8     PUBLIC HEARING   Proposed Ordinance No. 25 –  
Consideration to Increase Compensation of the Board of Directors  
Motion**

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The attached draft Ordinance includes a new per diem rate of \$237, reflecting a rounding of the maximum five percent increase allowable by law (\$237.30), however, the Board could move to reduce this amount prior to adopting and approving the Ordinance.

Regardless of the amount, any increase must be adopted through an Ordinance and a Public Hearing process, which is schedule for the February 2021 Regular Board meeting, along with the introduction of Ordinance No. 25. The Board would then vote to adopt the proposed Ordinance No. 25 at its March 2021 Regular Board meeting, and, if approved, the increase in per diem would take effect 60 days after the Ordinance’s adoption (May 12, 2021).

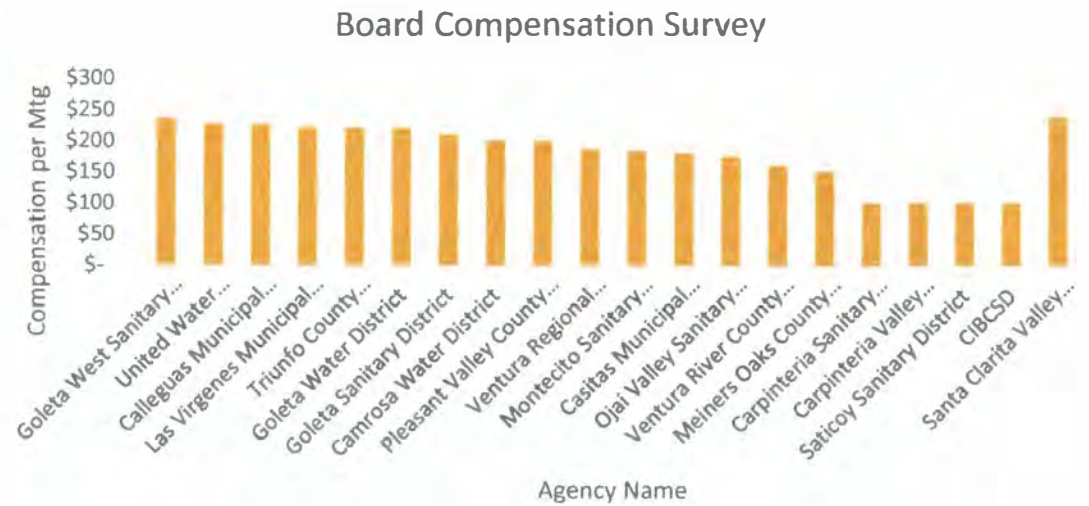
**Fiscal Impact**

Based upon prior activities and an average number of five meetings per month per Director, an increase in the per diem from \$226 to \$237 would result in a cost increase of approximately \$9,240 annually, as up to 10 meetings per month are compensable. There are sufficient funds within the budget to cover the additional costs.

**Attachments:** A – Proposed Ordinance No. 25



Agency	Compensation Per Meeting
Goleta West Sanitary District	\$ 235
United Water Conservation District	\$ 226
Calleguas Municipal Wtr District	\$ 225
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District	\$ 220
Triunfo County Sanitation District	\$ 220
Goleta Water District	\$ 220
Goleta Sanitary District	\$ 210
Camrosa Water District	\$ 200
Pleasant Valley County Wtr District	\$ 200
Ventura Regional Sanitary District	\$ 186
Montecito Sanitary District	\$ 184
Casitas Municipal Water District	\$ 180
Ojai Valley Sanitary District	\$ 175
Ventura River County Wtr District	\$ 160
Meiners Oaks County Wtr District	\$ 150
Carpinteria Sanitary District	\$ 100
Carpinteria Valley Water District	\$ 100
Saticoy Sanitary District	\$ 100
Channel Islands Beach CSD	\$ 100
Santa Clarita Valley Water	\$ 239
<b>Average:</b>	\$ 181
<b>Median:</b>	\$ 193

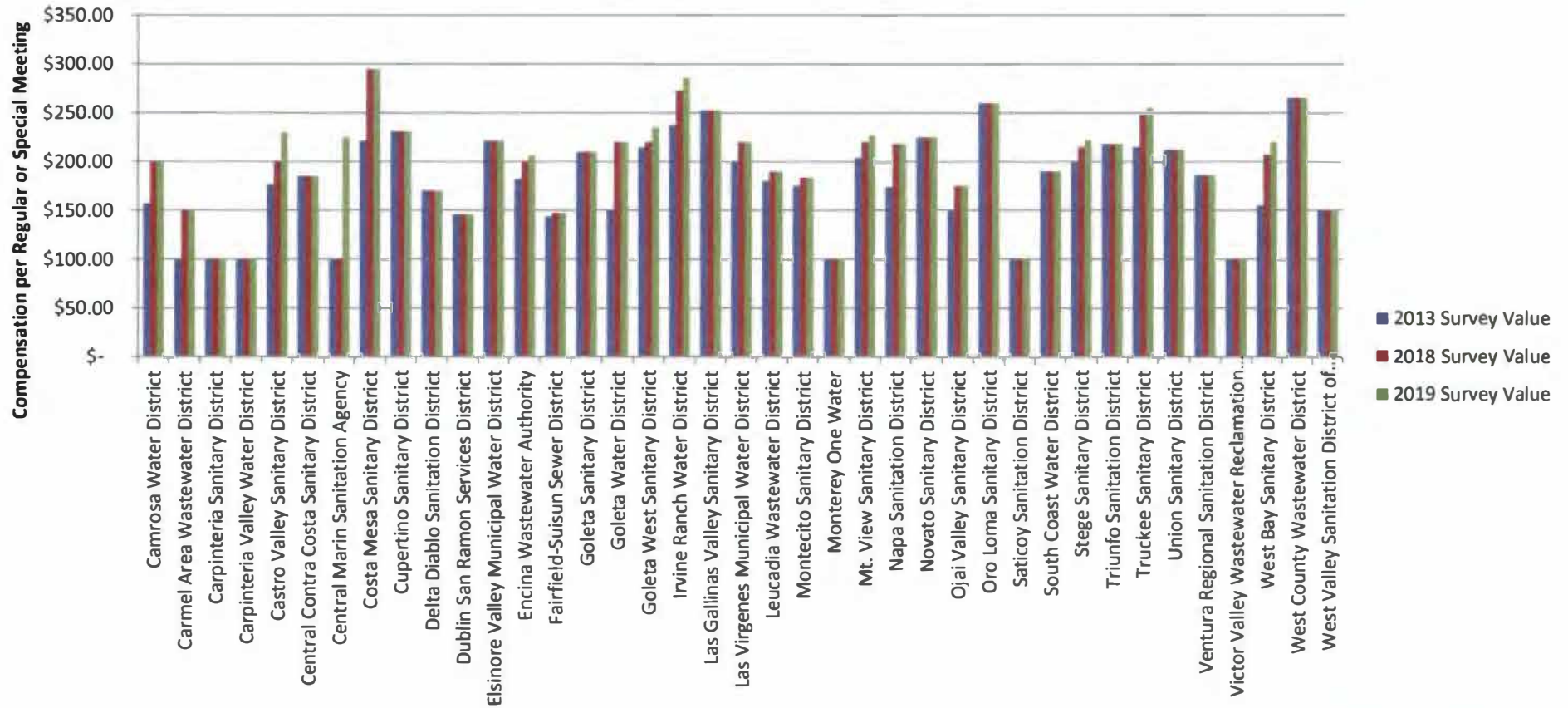


<b>AGENCY NAME</b>	<b>2013 Survey Value</b>	<b>2018 Survey Value</b>	<b>2019 Survey Value</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Camrosa Water District	\$ 157.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	27.39%	27.39%	0.00%
Carmel Area Wastewater District	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Carpinteria Sanitary District	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Carpinteria Valley Water District	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Castro Valley Sanitary District	\$ 176.34	\$ 200.00	\$ 230.00	13.42%	30.43%	15.00%
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District	\$ 185.00	\$ 185.00	\$ 185.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Central Marin Sanitation Agency	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 225.00	0.00%	125.00%	125.00%
Costa Mesa Sanitary District	\$ 221.00	\$ 295.00	\$ 295.00	33.48%	33.48%	0.00%
Cupertino Sanitary District	\$ 231.00	\$ 231.00	\$ 231.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Delta Diablo Sanitation District	\$ 170.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 170.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Dublin San Ramon Services District	\$ 146.00	\$ 146.00	\$ 146.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	\$ 221.43	\$ 221.43	\$ 221.43	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Encina Wastewater Authority	\$ 182.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 206.00	9.89%	13.19%	3.00%
Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District	\$ 143.59	\$ 147.32	\$ 147.32	2.60%	2.60%	0.00%
<b>Goleta Sanitary District</b>	<b>\$ 209.82</b>	<b>\$ 209.82</b>	<b>\$ 209.82</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
Goleta Water District	\$ 150.00	\$ 220.00	\$ 220.00	46.67%	46.67%	0.00%
Goleta West Sanitary District	\$ 215.00	\$ 220.00	\$ 235.00	2.33%	9.30%	6.82%
Irvine Ranch Water District	\$ 237.00	\$ 273.00	\$ 286.00	15.19%	20.68%	4.76%
Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District	\$ 252.70	\$ 252.70	\$ 252.70	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District	\$ 200.00	\$ 220.00	\$ 220.00	10.00%	10.00%	0.00%
Leucadia Wastewater District	\$ 180.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 190.00	5.56%	5.56%	0.00%
Montecito Sanitary District	\$ 175.00	\$ 183.75	\$ 183.75	5.00%	5.00%	0.00%
Monterey One Water	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Mt. View Sanitary District	\$ 204.00	\$ 220.00	\$ 226.60	7.84%	11.08%	3.00%
Napa Sanitation District	\$ 174.00	\$ 218.00	\$ 218.00	25.29%	25.29%	0.00%
Novato Sanitary District	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Ojai Valley Sanitary District	\$ 150.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00	16.67%	16.67%	0.00%
Oro Loma Sanitary District	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 260.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%



<b>AGENCY NAME</b>	<b>2013 Survey Value</b>		<b>2018 Survey Value</b>	<b>2019 Survey Value</b>		<b>% Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Saticoy Sanitation District	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00	\$	100.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
South Coast Water District	\$	190.00	\$ 190.00	\$	190.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Stege Sanitary District	\$	200.00	\$ 215.00	\$	222.31	7.50%	11.16%	3.40%
Triunfo Sanitation District	\$	218.00	\$ 218.00	\$	218.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Truckee Sanitary District	\$	215.00	\$ 250.00	\$	255.00	16.28%	18.60%	2.00%
Union Sanitary District	\$	212.10	\$ 212.10	\$	212.10	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Ventura Regional Sanitation District	\$	186.00	\$ 186.00	\$	186.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00	\$	100.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
West Bay Sanitary District	\$	155.00	\$ 207.27	\$	220.00	33.72%	41.94%	6.14%
West County Wastewater District	\$	265.35	\$ 265.35	\$	265.35	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
West Valley Sanitation District of Santa Clara County	\$	150.00	\$ 150.00	\$	150.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Averages:</b>	\$	178.39	\$ 192.48	\$	198.14	7.90%	11.07%	2.94%

## Board Member Compensation Survey 2013 base year and comparison to 2018 and 2019



**UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
ORDINANCE NO. 25**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE  
IN COMPENSATION OF THE MEMBERS OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

WHEREAS, the compensation of each Director of United Water Conservation District was last adjusted in 2020 to an amount not to exceed two hundred twenty six dollars and no cents (\$226.) per day for each day's attendance at meetings of the Board or for each day's service rendered as a Director by request of the Board, not exceeding a total of ten days in any calendar month, together with any expenses incurred in the performance of each Director's duties required or authorized by the Board; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code sections 20201 and 20202 authorize the governing board of a water conservation district to increase the compensation received by members of the Board of Directors of the District above the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day by an amount not to exceed five percent of the compensation which is received when the ordinance is adopted, for each calendar year following the operative date of the last adjustment, for a total of not more than ten days in any calendar month.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District hereby ordains as follows:

That each Director of this District shall receive compensation in an amount not to exceed two hundred thirty seven dollars and no cents (\$237) per day for each day's attendance at meetings of the Board or for each day's service rendered as a Director by request of the Board, not exceeding a total of ten days in any calendar month, together with any expenses incurred in the performance of the Director's duties required or authorized by the Board.

This ordinance shall become effective sixty (60) days after its

adoption. **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.

**ATTEST:**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael W. Mobley, President

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer



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.



3



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)

4





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

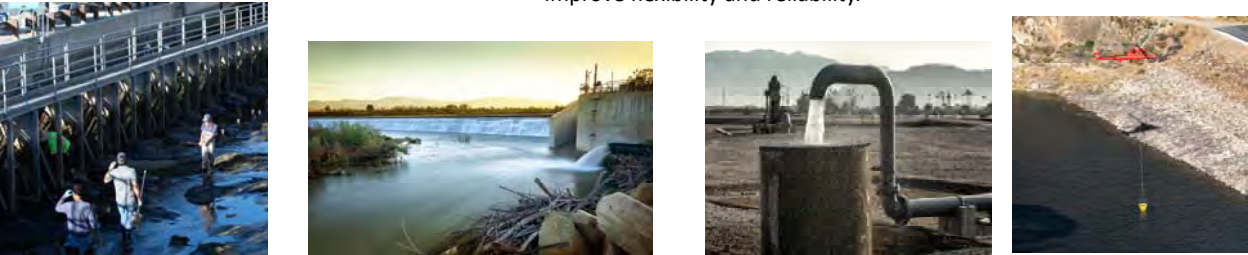
Develop and implement new infrastructure projects that maintain and improve water supply.

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.



5



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)

8


4




**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.



9




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)



10



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.

11



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)

12

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.



13



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



14







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.



15



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.

16



**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

3

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	1,900	2,100	1,300
Aug	2,100	1,800	1,500
Sep	3,000	1,600	1,300
Oct	3,100	1,900	1,600
Nov	2,200	1,200	1,200
Dec	1,600	1,000	900
Jan	-	1,200	900
Feb	-	1,600	1,000
Mar	-	1,100	1,100
April	-	1,300	1,300
May	-	1,800	1,500
June	-	1,900	1,400

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 4

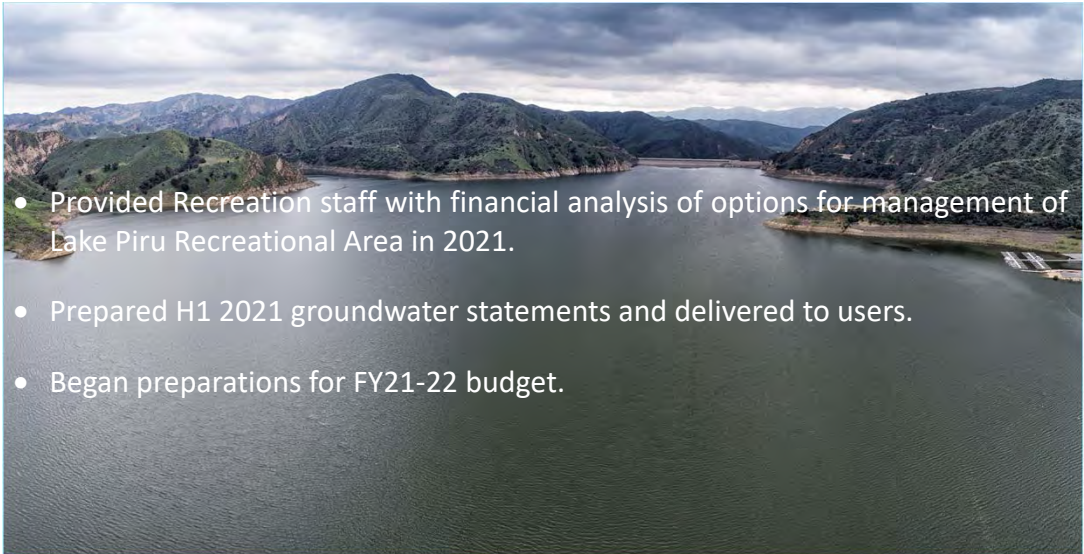
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## UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 5

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 6

3



- 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 DISTRICT7


7



ADMINISTRATIVE  
DIVISION  
RECAP

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT8


8



- 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION RECAP

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 9



- 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION RECAP

UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT 10




- 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

12





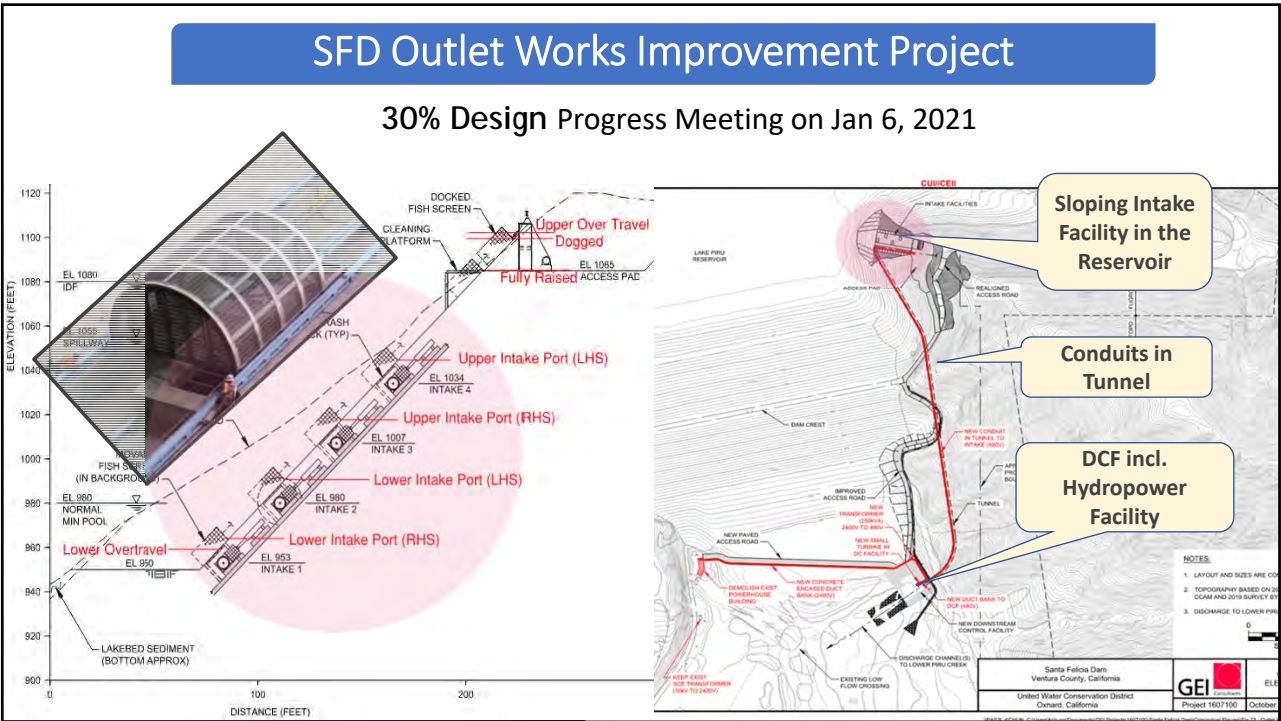
- Installed conferencing PC in the General Manager’s office for Teams, and all other virtual meeting suites used by District partners and agencies.
- Purchased and installed Xerox all-in one-color printer for the Lake Piru Recreation Area Rangers.
- Installed networking equipment at the Lake Piru Recreation 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



1



2



3

### 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

4



## 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



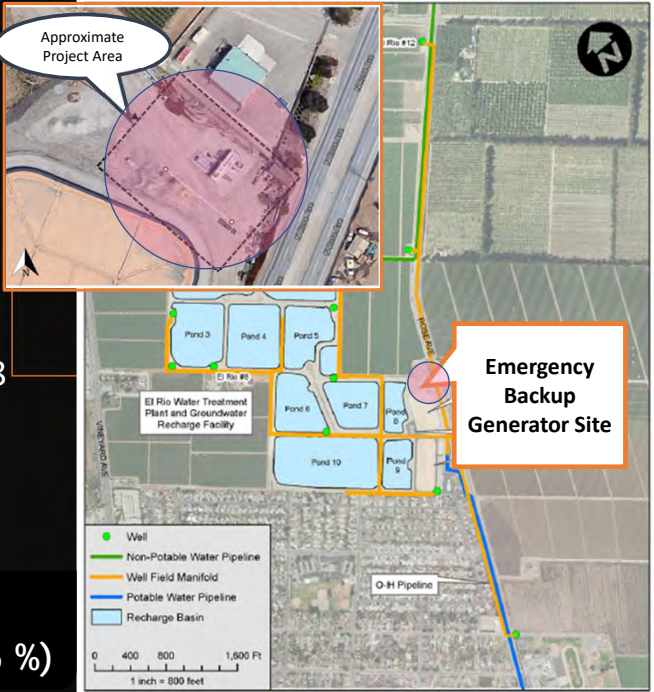
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## OH System Emergency Backup Generator

**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 %)**

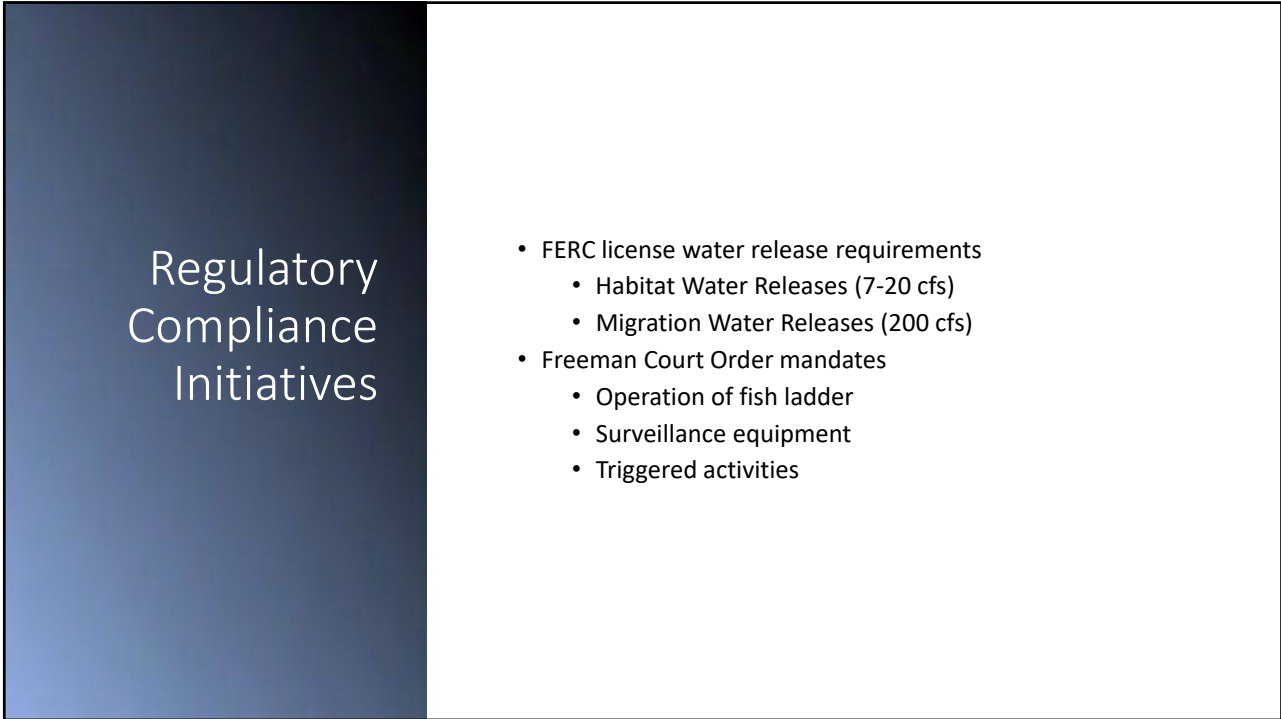


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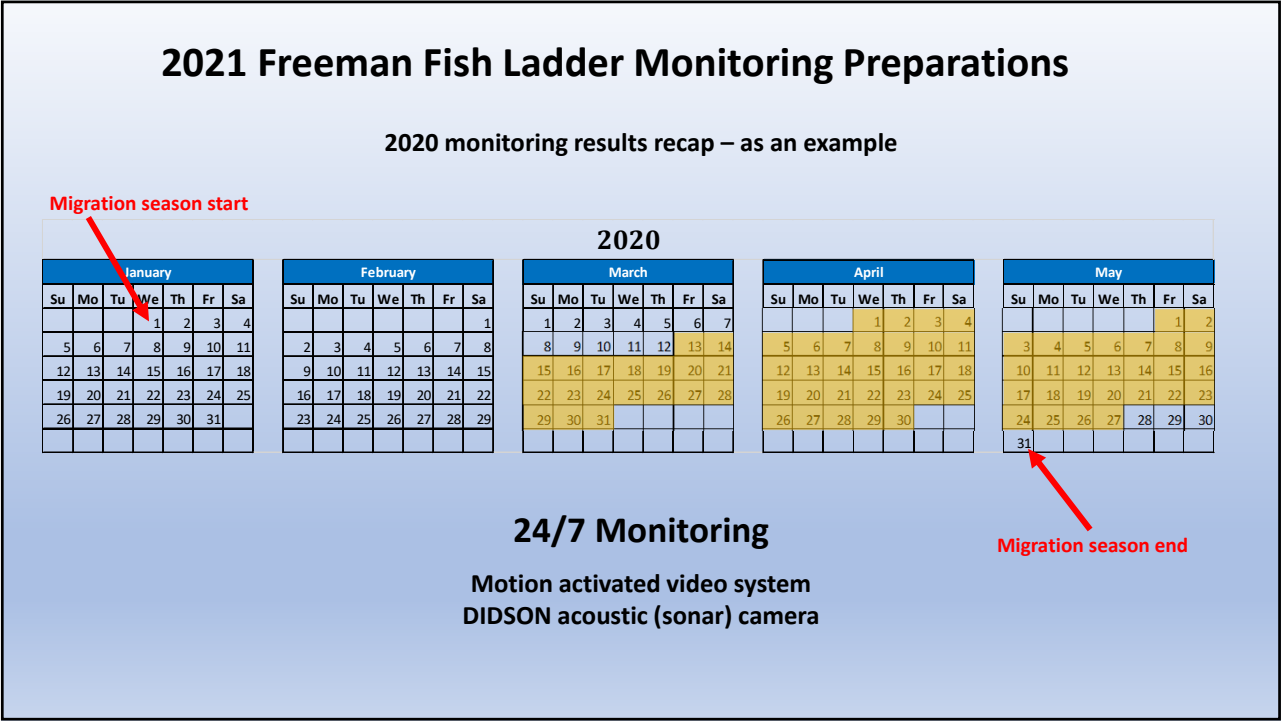




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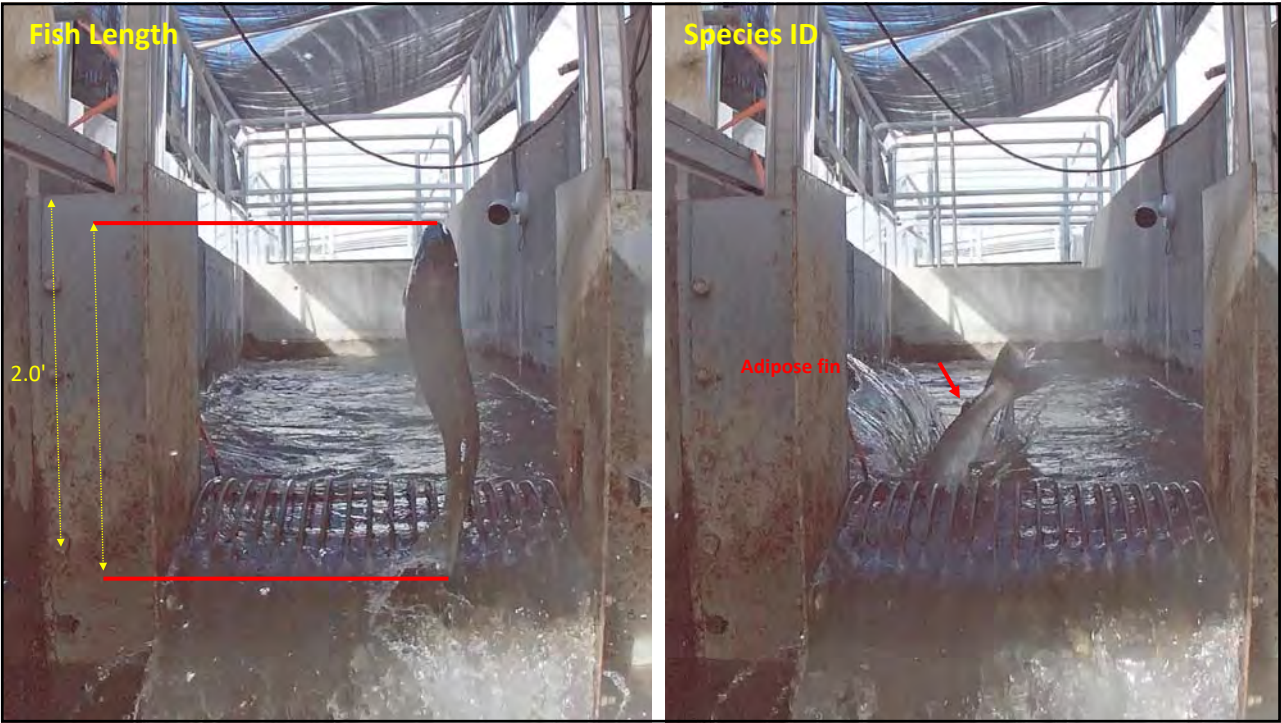


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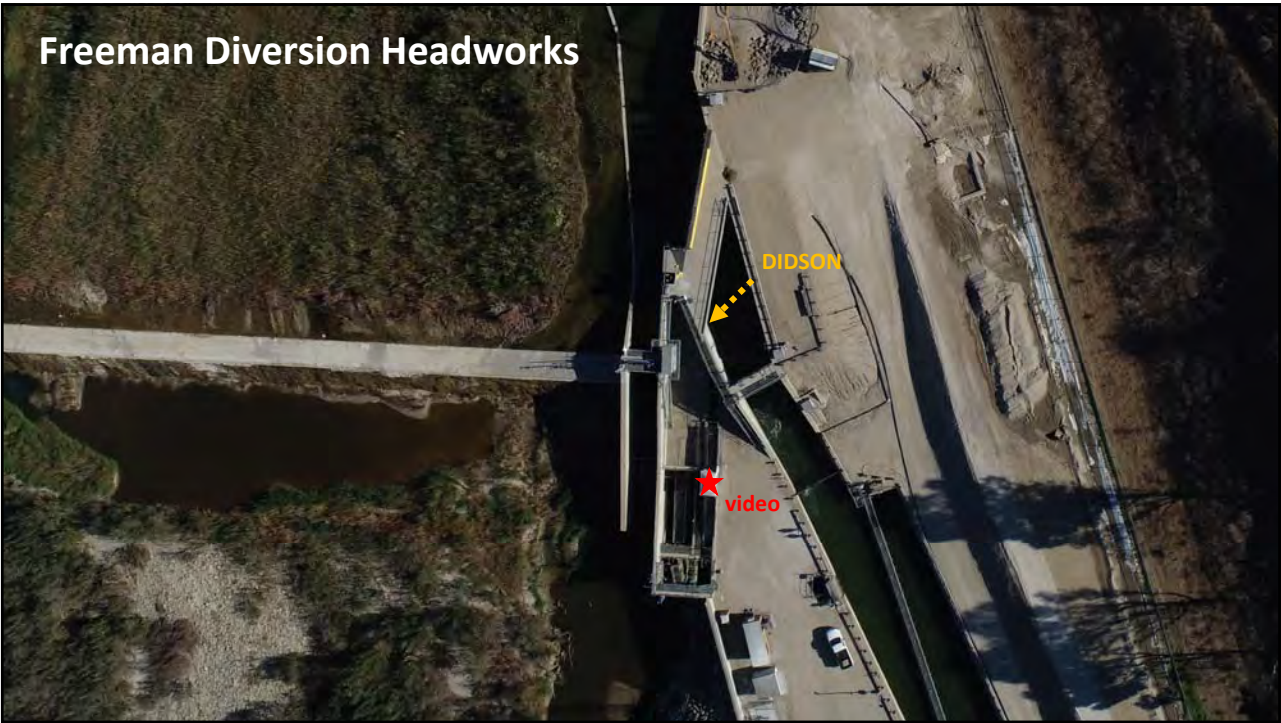


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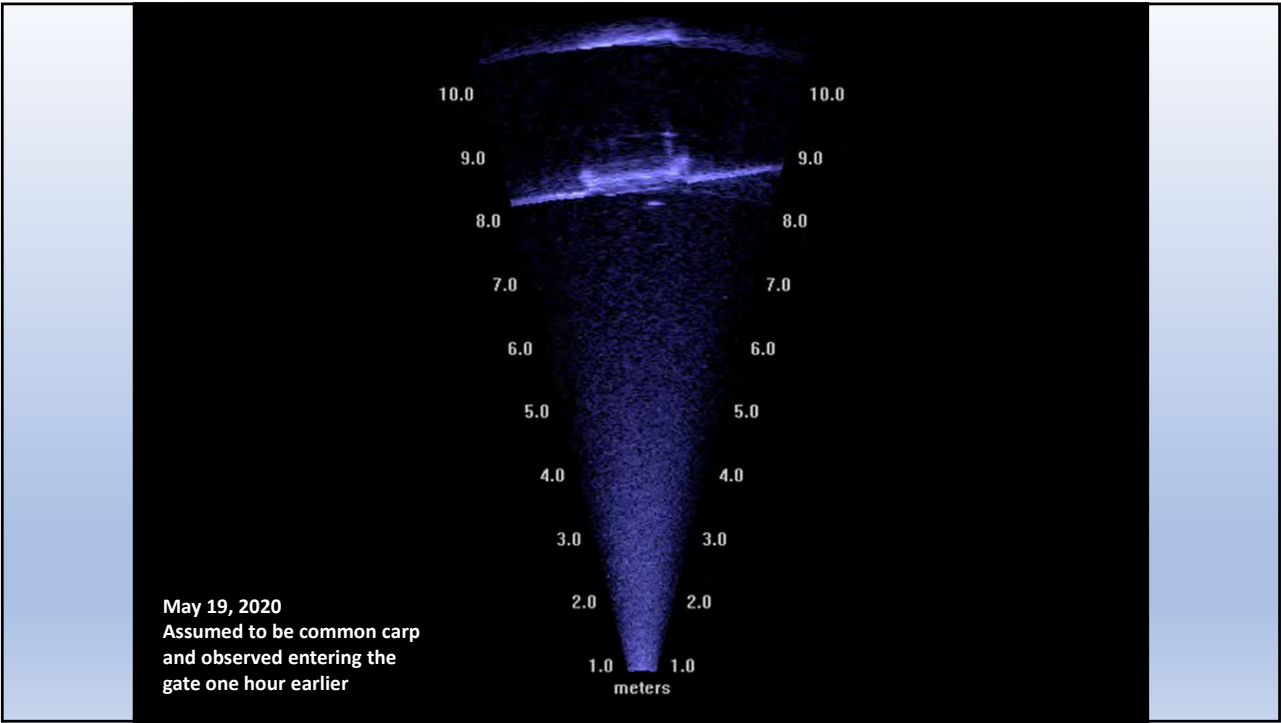




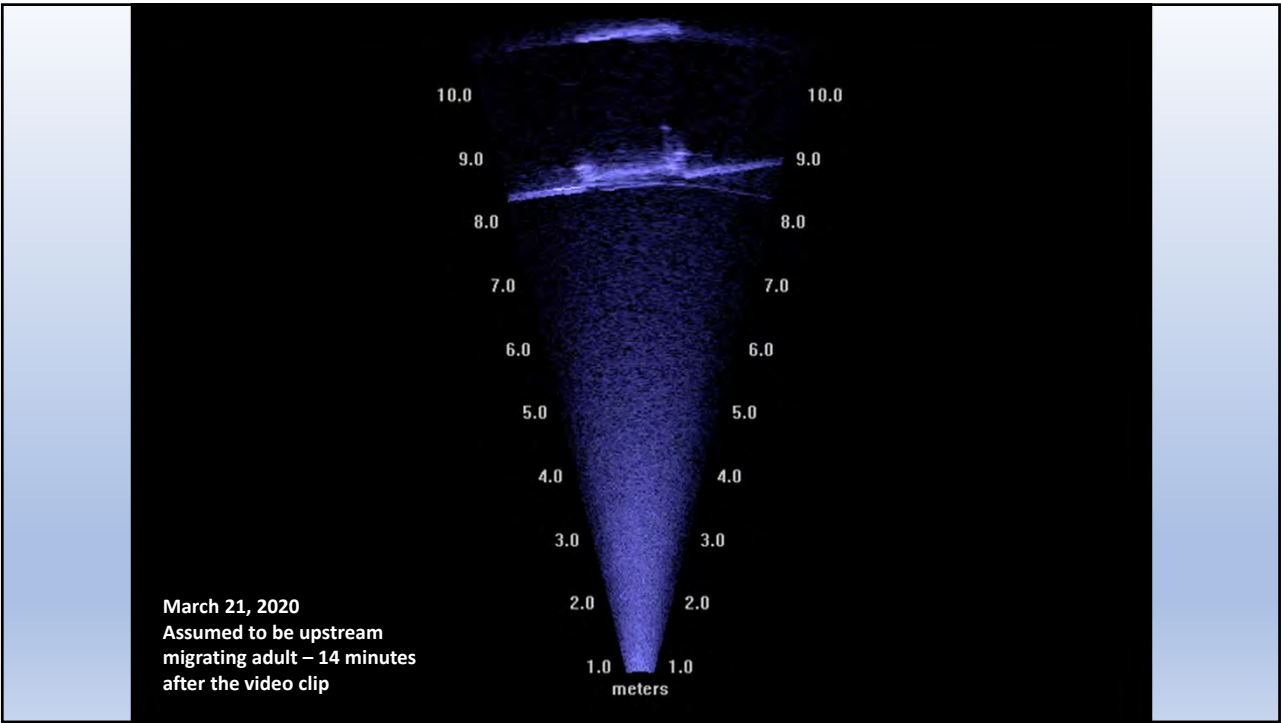
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10

### Reviewing Monitoring Footage is Time Intensive

2020 monitoring results as an example

#### Video Surveillance


2082 total clips (~18 hours)

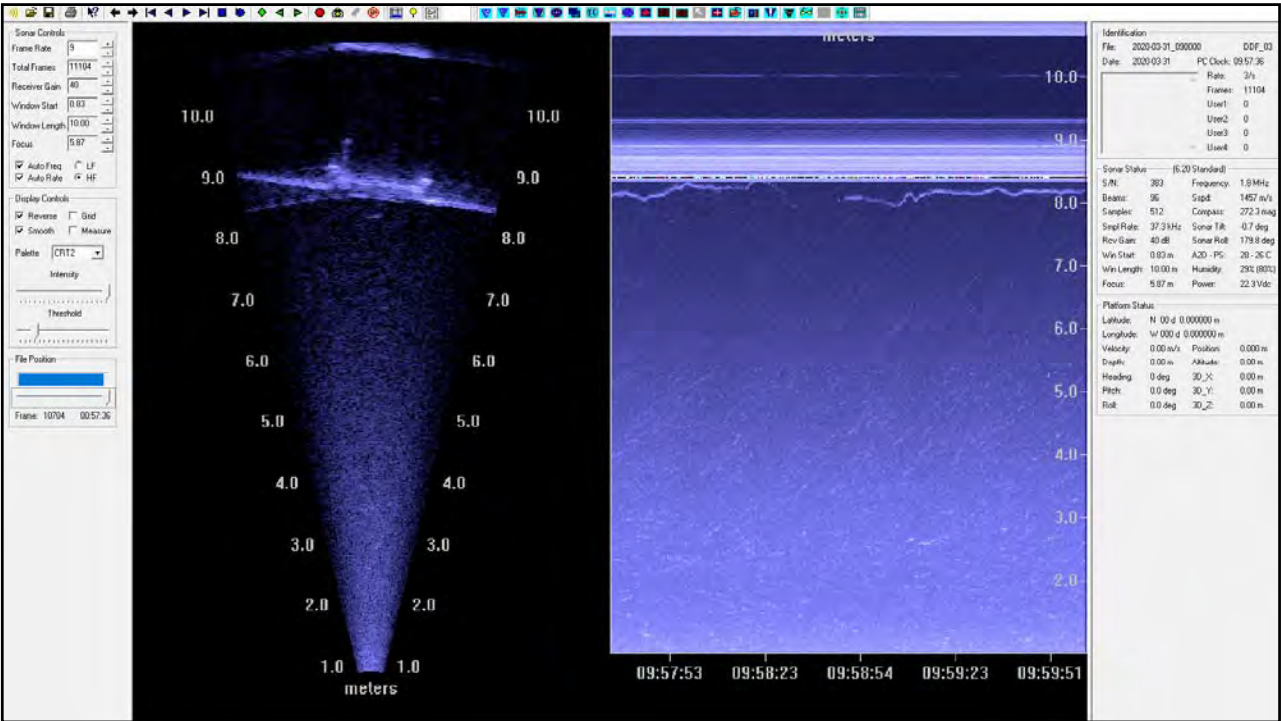
- 6 fish
  - 3 upstream migrating *O. mykiss*
    - 2 adults, 1 smolt
  - 3 common carp
- 28 birds
- 246 bugs
- LOTS of splashing
- 1 two-striped garter snake
- 1 western pond turtle

#### DIDSON Footage

1675 total hours (69.8 days) of footage for review

428 individual observations of fish







### 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

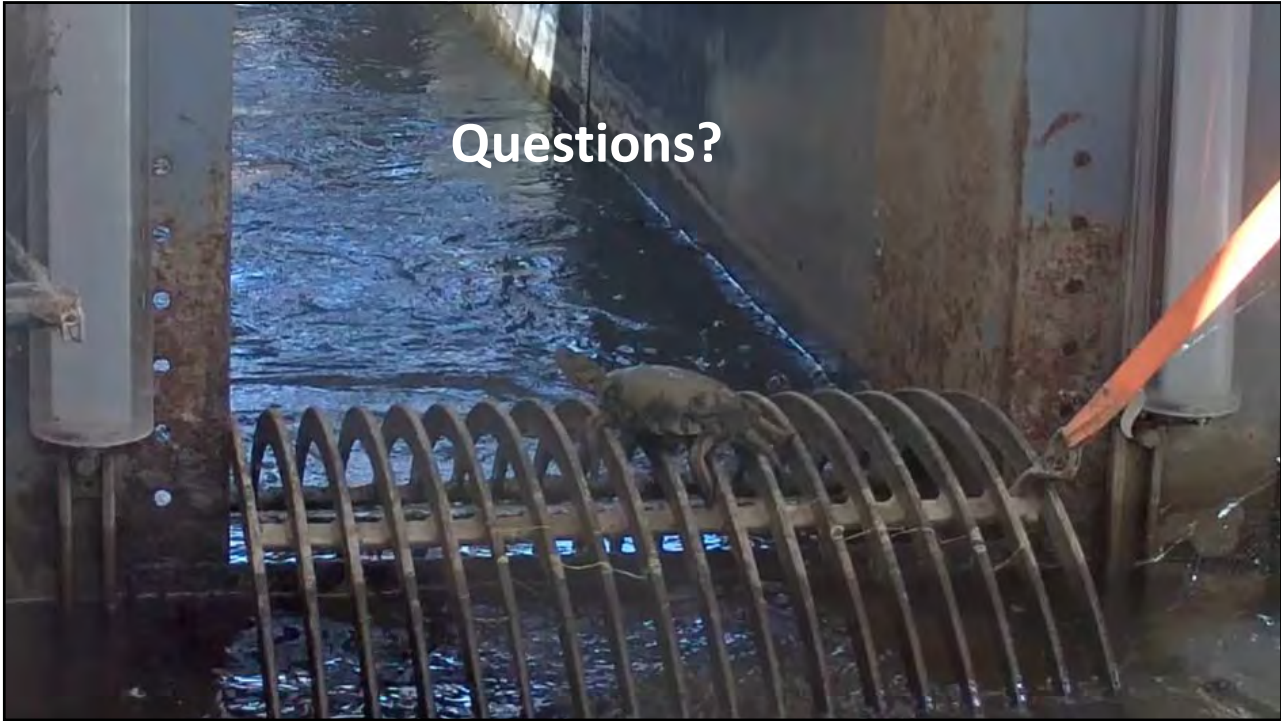
- Review acquired footage
- Check, clean, and replace DIDSON if necessary
- Test IR beams and video upload
- General facility visual check

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



13



14



**REVISED MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 12:00 P.M.**

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

**DIRECTORS PARTICIPATING**

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

**STAFF PARTICIPATING**

Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., general manager  
David D. Boyer, legal counsel  
Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer (virtual)  
Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager  
John Carman, operations and maintenance program supervisor (virtual)  
Brian Collins, operations and maintenance manager  
Dan Detmer, supervising hydrogeologist  
Joseph Jereb, chief financial officer  
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, senior environmental scientist (virtual)  
Robert Richardson, senior engineer (virtual)  
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**

Bob Allen (virtual)  
Dennis Cardoza (virtual)  
Y Gutierrez (virtual)  
Patrick Kelley  
Burt Handy (virtual)  
Aubrey Mescher (virtual)  
Cliff Rodrigues (virtual)  
Eric Schaad (virtual)



Jennifer Tribo, Ventura Water (virtual)

Maria Ventura (virtual)

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

President Mobley called the meeting to order at 12:04p.m.

**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 one case of anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2); and 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 12:06p.m.

**1.2 EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION 12:06 P.M.**

[As requested by Director Hasan at the UWCD Board meeting of January 13, 2021, the Minutes are revised to indicate that Director Hasan was not included in the Executive (Closed) Session portion of the Board meeting. This was due to the fact that Director Hasan did not take his Oath of Office, which "officially" installed him as a Board Director, until the Second Open Session, item 2.9, which occurred after Executive Session.]

**2. SECOND OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER 1:15 P.M.**

President Mobley called the Second Open Session of the meeting to order at 1:15p.m. Clerk of the Board took roll: six Directors present (Berger, Dandy, Maulhardt, McFadden, Mobley, Naumann)

**2.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

President Mobley asked Director Naumann 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 Naumann; second, Director McFadden. Roll call vote: six ayes (Berger, Dandy, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

**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 Maulhardt reported his participation at the Engineering Committee meeting on November 5 and the Board meeting on November 10.

Director Dandy reported attending the Finance Committee meeting on November 9 and the Board meeting on November 10 as well as his participation in two meetings of the AWA-VC – a regular meeting on November 19 and the Water Issues Committee meeting on November 17; and two meetings of the Oxnard Chamber of Commerce, one on November 11 and one on November 12.

Director Naumann reported his participation at the Board meeting on November 10, the Water Resources Committee meeting on November 3 and the Engineering and Operations Committee on November 5 and the Special Engineering and Operations Committee meeting on November 9. He attended a meeting with the GM and Director Maulhardt on November 3 and a meeting with Mr. Boyer and the District's consultant Dr. Mathis on November 29. He also participated in the Regional Defense Partnership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century meeting on November 3 and the virtual AWA-VC Elected Officials and Leadership reception.

Director Berger reported his participation in the Finance Committee meeting on November 9 and Board Meeting on November 10, as well as a Special Executive Committee meeting on November 18. He also participated in the AWA-VC Symposium on November 19 and the AWA-VC Board meeting on November 5.

Director McFadden reported his participation at the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Board meeting on November 19, the UWCD Engineering and Operations

Committee meeting on December 3, today's Board meeting and he will be participating in a FPBGSA Stakeholder Workshop later tonight.

President Mobley reported his participation in the Fox Canyon GMA meeting on December 2, a Mound Basin GSA Board meeting on November 19 and an upcoming MBGSA Board meeting on December 17, a Special UWCD Executive Committee meeting on November 18 and a prep meeting with the GM on December 8 to prepare for today's Board meeting.

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

### **Information Item**

General Manager Mauricio Guardado introduced Operations and Maintenance Manager Brian Collins, who introduced two new staff members: James "JD" Smallwood who has joined the District as a recharge operations and maintenance worker I, and Tim L. Tim Lewsadder, who is also a recharge operations and maintenance worker I. Mr. Collins provided the Board with background information on both gentlemen and stated that these new staffers represented the next generation of United's team.

Mr. Guardado then expressed his excitement regarding the passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 in Congress and that once the Senate voted, the legislation would be on the President's desk for signature before the end of the year. Mr. Guardado thanked Senator Feinstein and especially Congresswoman Julia Brownley for their support on this important amendment. Mr. Guardado also mentioned that he is working in coordination with Congresswoman Brownley's office on a press release that will be distributed once the President signs this new legislation into law.

Mr. Guardado then asked Mr. Boyer to address AB992 regarding virtual meetings and social media. Mr. Boyer explained to the Board that this new legislation goes into effect January 1, 2021 and only impacts Board members. The law clarifies Board members use of social media, saying it is okay to respond to a member of the public's question through social media posts, but that Board members cannot comment on other Board members' posts or comments, as that could be construed as a serial meeting, which is prohibited by the Brown Act. Mr. Boyer cautioned the Board to be mindful of this new law.

## **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, CA Governor Newsom and President Trump regarding the COVID-19 virus. He added that with the escalating number of COVID-19 cases in the County and the increase in hospitalizations, the County would be closing again.

He also reported that Ventura County, Santa Barbara County and San Luis Obispo County were attempting to be reclassified as “Central Coast” rather than be included in the “Southern California” region, as Los Angeles’ numbers are negatively impacting these counties tier level. In the meantime, staff continue to work remotely, when practical, and are practicing social distancing, wearing mask and other public safety measures.

## **2.8 Presentation of Proclamation in Recognition of Director Patrick J. Kelley**

### **Ceremonial Item**

President Mobley called former Director Patrick J. Kelley up from the audience in the Boardroom and asked him to join him at the podium. President Mobley had a framed proclamation from the UWCD Board of Directors, recognizing Mr. Kelley’s many contributions and services to the District, which President Mobley synopsised in presenting the proclamation to Mr. Kelley.

Director Berger addressed Mr. Kelley saying that he did an outstanding job as the interim Board member and that his financial background was very beneficial to the Finance Committee and Board overall. Director Berger added that he hopes Mr. Kelley will stay connected with the District and thanked Mr. Kelley for a job well done.

Director McFadden told Mr. Kelley that it was a pleasure working with him and thanked Mr. Kelley for his service.

Director Naumann stated that he has known Mr. Kelley for decades and that his strength comes from his love for family, which has been beneficial in building relationships with the farming community and making things happen. He also thanked Mr. Kelley for his time and his service.

Director Maulhardt said he has known Mr. Kelley since his early days with Farm Credit West and it has been a pleasure to see him apply his efforts and energy to the District’s issues, responding in a calm and reasonable manner to reach solutions. Director Maulhardt said he appreciated all that Mr. Kelley has done for the District and wished him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

Director Dandy thanked Mr. Kelley for his service to the District, including sharing his financial knowledge and expertise with the Bond issuance. Director Dandy said he will miss Mr. Kelley’s insight, and wished him well.

President Mobley said he appreciated Mr. Kelley filling the void in Division 2 and that because of Mr. Kelley’s background, experience and knowledge, the Board was able to trust his guidance and that Mr. Kelley’s financial acumen was a bonus. President Mobley added that with Mr. Kelley’s help, the Board was able to create stronger bridges with the City of San Buenaventura and that the leadership of the District would always remember his service to the District.

Mr. Kelley then addressed the Board, saying that they were probably not expecting a rebuttal, and in the spirit of Director Maulhardt, he will be brief in his comments. Mr. Kelley congratulated Mr. Hasan, saying that Mr. Hasan will do well with the fine folks here at the District. Mr. Kelley said he was proud to fill a need with his education, work experience, background and history with the District. Mr. Kelley said that Mr. Guardado and the District staff are talented individuals whose reports, planning and projects demonstrate the excellent work performance of the team. He then said that every member of the District should be proud of the service the District provides to the community. Mr. Kelley ended by invoking what he called an old Irish toast, saying “As you stand at the top of the stairs and slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way.”

**2.9 Oaths of Office – United Water Conservation District Division 4, Division 5, Division 6, Division 7, Division 2, and Division 3**

**Motion**

The Clerk of the Board, as a Deputy County Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Director Berger, Director Dandy, Director Maulhardt and Director Naumann as they each begin a new four-year term on United’s Board of Directors; and administer the Oath of Office to Director Mobley and the newly elected Director Hasan, each of whom begins a new two year or short term on United’s Board of Directors.

Director Hasan stated that over 11,000 people voted for him, many of whom were friends. He thanked those friends for helping to get him elected, and his wife for putting up with him. Director Hasan said his first interaction with the District was in 1979, that he had met Irv Wilde and Jim Grisham, interviewed for the General Manager’s position in the early 1980s and various other positions since. He said it has been a long journey and that he appreciated the help from the General Manager, District’s Legal Counsel, and Dr. Mathis. He added that he is a team player and looks forward to working as a member of the Board of Directors.

As requested by Director Hasan at the UWCD Board meeting of January 13, 2021, the Minutes are revised to include a text of Director Hasan’s remarks following his Oath of Office. [The following text was provided by Director Hasan]

*“Thank you, Mr. President!*

*I would like to first start by thanking those that have voted for me-over 11,000 people, I am grateful. Then, I would like to thank those that helped me get elected--all my wonderful friends that tirelessly worked so that I can make it! I am grateful to my wife for putting up with me during this time.*

*Although I knew about the District a few years before, I attended my first board meeting in 1979 when I became the Utilities Superintendent of the city of Oxnard. Since, I have known and worked with great individuals such as Irv Wilde, Gene Perello, and Phil Drescher. I liked the District so much, I tried to work here. I was interviewed for General Manager position in the early eighties and various positions since. I tried to get in on the board when I interviewed with this board*

*for the short term position early this year. You can say, it has been a long journey!*

*Since the election, the help I received from our GM, counsel, and Dr. Bill has been tremendous. So is Kris Sofley. I appreciate all of you.*

*It was brought up that I may know a lot about water due to my background than some others, but I just want to remind you of the saying “A tree that has a lot of fruits, bends”. I am here to work with this board, and present ideas, suggestions and comments to the board. Board makes the decisions. I am known as a team player.*

*Finally, in Spanish we say, Lo demas es lo de menos.  
Thank you”*

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 November 10, 2020.

B. **Groundwater Basin Status Reports**  
**Information Item**

Receive and file Monthly Hydrologic Conditions Report for the District.

C. **Monthly Investment and Pipeline Delivery 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.

D. **Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) presented by the District’s Auditors Vasquez & Co.**  
**Information Item**

The Board will receive the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) from the District’s auditors Vasquez & Co.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar, 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. MOTION ITEMS (By Department)**

##### **Administrative Services Department – Joseph Jereb**

#### **4.1 Budget Transfer (Fund 420) in the amount of \$200,000 from Legal Fees (Fund/Account 420-600-52510) to Professional Fees (Fund/Account 420-600-52220) – No net fiscal impact**

##### **Motion**

Chief Financial Officer Joseph Jereb addressed the Board and explained that the requested transfer was to cover unanticipated expenditures to secure regulatory authorizations for sediment management activities at the Freeman Diversion.

Environmental Services Manager Linda Purpus added that the requested transfer amount was for consultants' support in securing regulatory authorizations and that due to the court order issued in August, there has been a reduction in funding needed for legal expenses.

Director Berger reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the requested transfer of funds and recommends Board approval of the motion.

Director Hasan asked how often these transfer requests occur. Mr. Jereb said after the Budget is adopted in June, sometimes adjustments or transfers of funds are necessary and that the Board needs to approve requests over a specific dollar amount threshold. Mr. Guardado clarified that this is a request to move money from one area to another and is not a request for more funding, and does not have a net fiscal impact.

Motion to authorize a budget transfer in the amount of \$200,000 within Fund 420 from legal fees (Fund/Account 420-600-52510) to professional fees (Fund/Account 420-600-52220), Director Berger; Second, Director Maulhardt. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.

##### **Operations and Maintenance Department – Brian Collins**

#### **4.2 Pleasant Valley County Water District Supplemental Appropriation of Funds to Perform Valve Replacement Activities at the Pleasant Valley (PV) Reservoir**

##### **Motion**

Operations and Maintenance Manager Brian Collins addressed the Board and explained the supplemental appropriation of funds in the amount of \$225,000 is requested to replace the above ground valves at the Pleasant Valley Reservoir.

Director Dandy asked if there were sufficient funds in the PV Enterprise Fund. Mr. Jereb said yes, as was reported to the Finance Committee yesterday. He added that due to the 4,200 acre feet delivery of surface water which was unbudgeted there is revenue in the fund and a reduction in projected expenses.

Motion to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$225,000, to support unbudgeted maintenance activities at the Pleasant Valley (PV) Reservoir, Director

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

**4.3 Authorize the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds to Purchase the Eddy Pump Dredge Equipment**

**Motion**

Mr. Collins addressed the Board to explain that the requested supplemental appropriation of \$122,801 was to support the unbudgeted purchase of dredging equipment and that the District was moving forward on the purchase at this time as it had accrued a credit of \$42,000 towards the equipment purchase prices based on the District's recent rental of the equipment. Mr. Collins then presented slides depicting staff's analysis of the cost savings supporting the equipment purchase (see attached slides).

Director Maulhardt said that this purchased had been discussed at length during the Engineering and Operations Committee meeting and that he appreciates the additional information provided. He said it was important for the public to understand the impact of the District's efforts in securing permitting, sediment mitigation and other efforts that allow for greater recharge and surface deliveries. He continued stating that the release from Santa Felicia Dam also had side benefits in that the lower lake level provided for cost savings in the performance of various studies required as part of the District's Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement project. He said the Engineering Department gets a huge win, that Pleasant Valley was thrilled with the surface water delivery and the District needs to communicate the value of these actions. He also said he appreciates staff's ability to work with vendors to purchase equipment at significant savings, while also saving electrical costs, recharging the aquifer and providing efficiencies for the necessary engineering work at the Santa Felicia Dam.

Mr. Collins thanked Director Maulhardt for his statements and added that there is another benefit in that the nitrate levels were diluted at a time that typically sees low well levels and higher nitrate levels. Director Maulhardt said he was thrilled that Mr. Collins brought that up, adding that the reason for the creation of the Santa Felicia Dam was to recharge the forebay to improve the water quality of Oxnard wells and that diluting nitrate levels also creates a reduction in iron and manganese treatment.

Director Naumann stated that the Finance Committee had discussed the surface deliveries to Pleasant Valley, Pumping Trough and Oxnard Hueneme pipelines. Mr. Collins said that the delivery of surface water to ag users and then to M&I users in the evenings was a unique and very successful effort that the public recognizes.

Motion to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$122,801 to support the unbudgeted purchase of dredge equipment, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Hasan. Roll call vote: seven ayes (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 7/0.



**Park and Recreation Division – Clayton Strahan**

**4.4     Resolution 2020-19 Approving an Amended and Restated Ordinance No. 15 to Amend the Established Rules and Regulations for the Lake Piru Recreation Area and Extend the Authority Granted to the District’s Park Ranger Personnel**

**Motion**

Chief Ranger Clayton Strahan addressed the Board regarding the requested approval of Resolution 2020-19, which would adopt the amended and restated Ordinance No. 15, thereby extending the authority granted to the District’s Park Ranger personnel. As Chief Strahan explained, he has brought this motion to the Engineering and Operations Committee and the Finance Committee after addressing the concerns and objections expressed by the Board when he initially presented the motion back in September.

Director Maulhardt said the Engineering and Operations Committee were first concerned about the breadth and scope defined and requested language changes to address those concerns. As now stated, the Recreation personnel can help when and where needed, in a limited scope, so that the District can “take care of our own.”

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-19, approving an amended and restated Ordinance No. 15, amending established rules and regulations for the Lake Piru Recreation Area and extending the authority granted to the District’s Park Ranger personnel, Director Maulhardt; Second, Director Naumann. 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)**

**Operations and Maintenance – Brian Collins**

**5.1     Monthly Operation and Maintenance Department Report  
Information Item**

Mr. Collins presented an overview of the monthly operations and maintenance activities regarding District facilities (see attached presentation).

**Park and Recreation Department – Clayton Strahan**

**5.2     Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report  
Information Item**

Chief Strahan presented an overview of the monthly operations and items of note regarding the Lake Piru Recreation Area (see attached presentation).

**Water Resources Department – Maryam Bral**

**5.3     Monthly Water Resources Department Report  
Information Item**

Dr. Bral introduced Supervising Hydrogeologist Dan Detmer to present an overview of the monthly Water Resources Department activities (see attached).

Mr. Detmer also responded to questions from the Board regarding premature notification by certain government agencies that the drought was over.

Mr. Detmer introduced Principal Hydrologist Murray McEachron to present an overview of the District's 2020 96-Day Continuous Release (see attached).

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

**Information Item**

Mr. Detmer presented an overview of 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.

**Administrative Services Department – Anthony Emmert**

**5.5 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report – Anthony Emmert**  
**Information Item**

The Board received the summary report on Administration Department activities. President Mobley asked if the Board had any questions or comments. None were offered.

**Engineering Department – Maryam Bral**

**5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report**  
**Information Item**

The Board received a summary report on various water resources, planning efforts and department programs affecting the District. President Mobley asked if the Board had any questions or comments. None were offered.

**Environmental Services Department – Linda Purpus**

**5.7 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report**  
**Information Item**

The Board received a summary report on environmental and regulatory issues of note to the District. President Mobley asked if the Board had any questions or comments. None were offered.

**6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS READING FILE**

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

President Mobley asked if there were any topics the Board members would like to address at future meetings. None were offered.

**8. ADJOURNMENT 3:29p.m.**

President Mobley adjourned the Board to the **Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2021** or call of the President.

UWCD Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

December 9, 2020

Page 12

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the UWCD Board of Directors meeting of December 9, 2020.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board



**Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager  
Maryam A. Bral, Chief Engineer

**From:** Kathleen Kuepper, Hydrogeologist  
Bram Sercu, Senior Hydrologist

**Date:** February 2, 2021 (February 10, 2021, meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 3.B Groundwater Basin Status Report  
**Informational Item**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will receive and file this summary report from the Water Resources Department regarding activities for the month of January 2021.

**Summary:**

Spreading and Pipeline Deliveries for Month of January 2021

Location	Amount (acre-feet)
Saticoy	374
Noble and Rose Pits	
El Rio	1,960
Piru	
Diverted at Freeman for Pipeline Deliveries	407.6
Saticoy/O-H Deep Wells Pumped for Ag Pipeline Deliveries	
Lloyd-Butler Diversion	5.6

Groundwater Basin Available Storage at End of Month of January 2021

Basin	Available Storage (acre-feet)
Oxnard Forebay	102,300

Precipitation for Month of January 2021

Location	Precipitation (inches)
Lake Piru	1.54
Santa Paula	1.79
El Rio	1.18

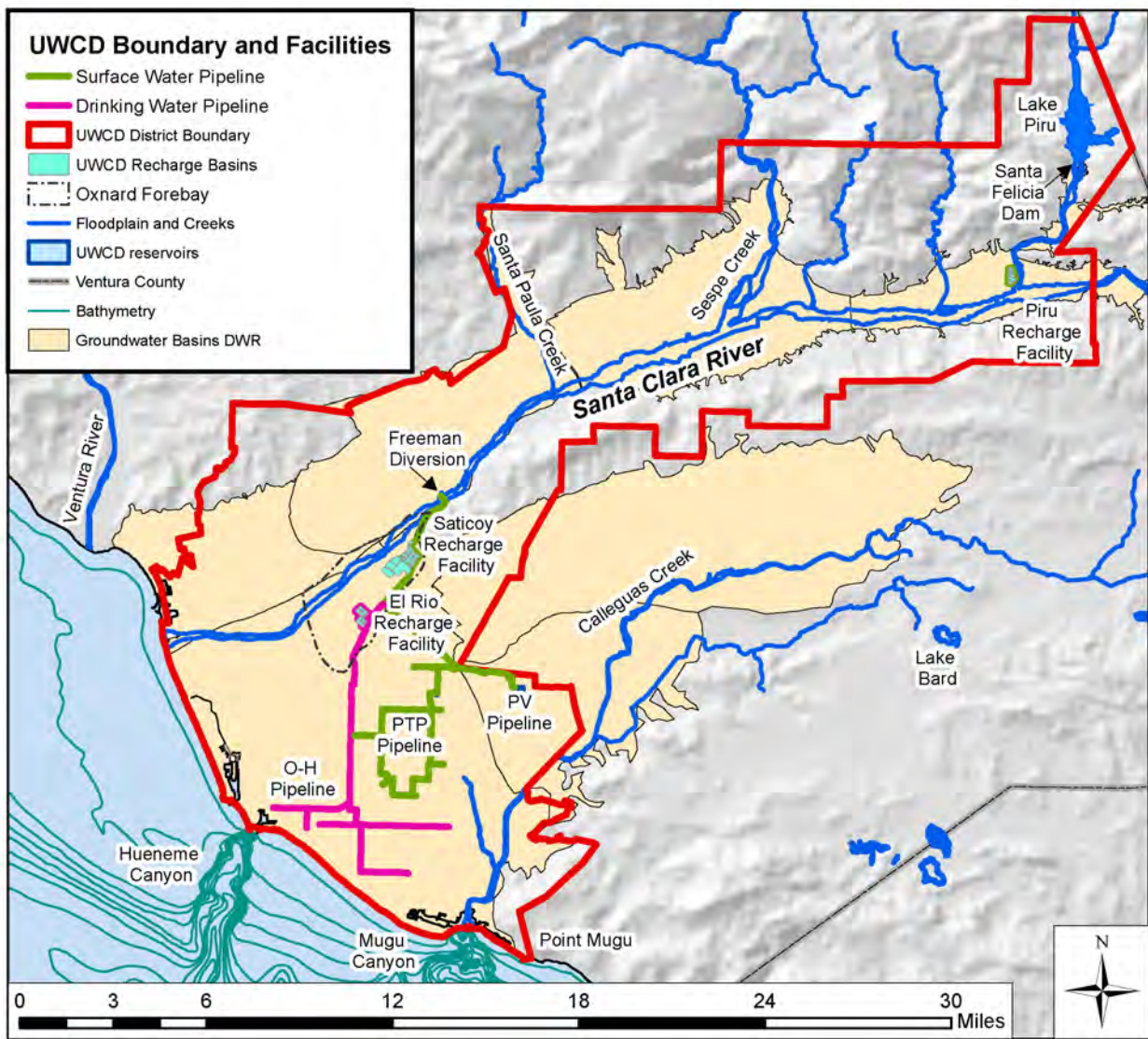


# United Water

## CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### January 2021 Hydrologic Conditions Report 2020/21 Water Year

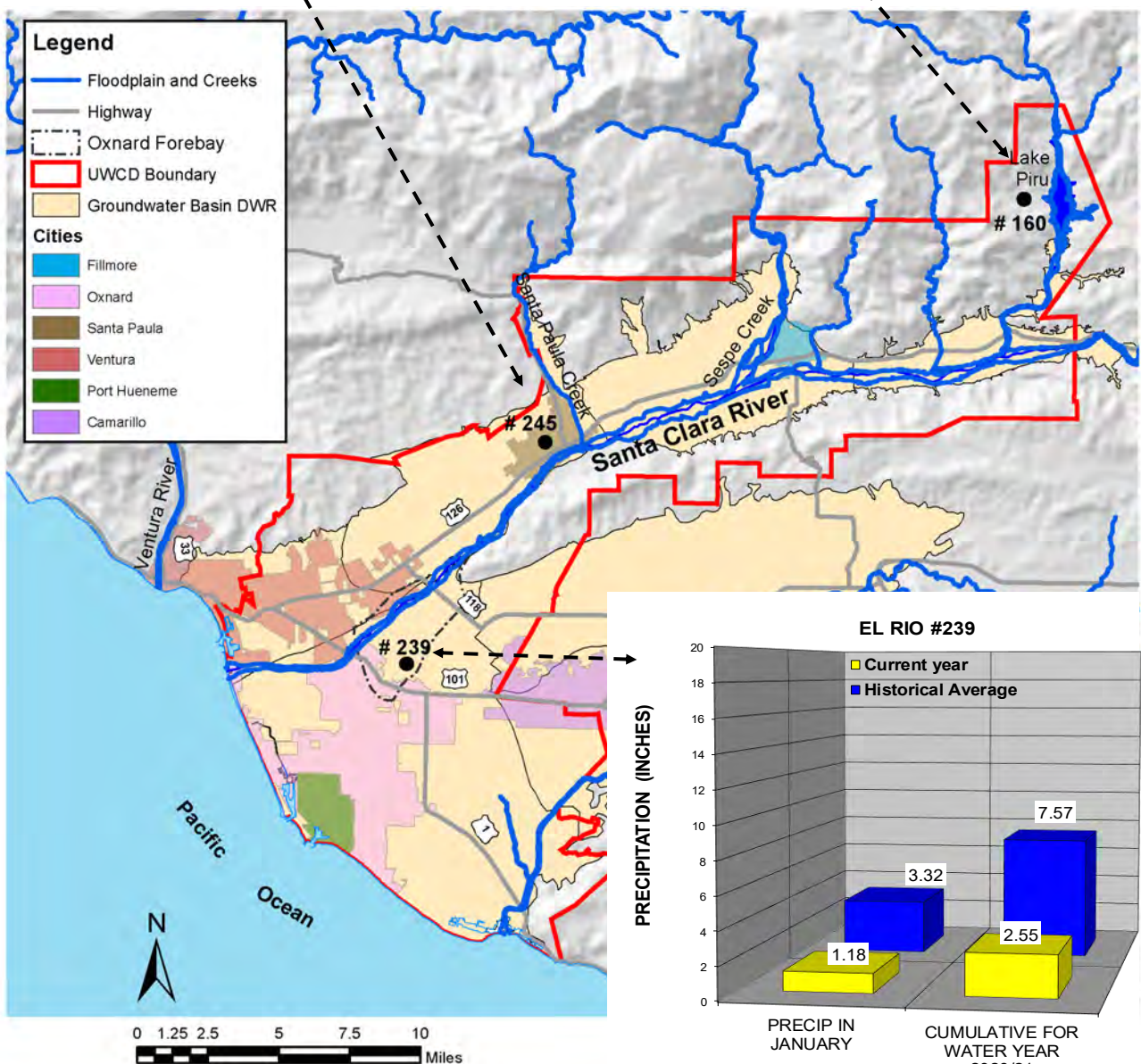
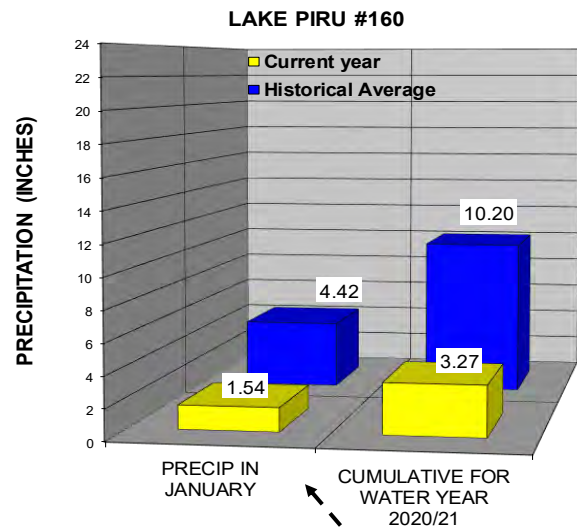
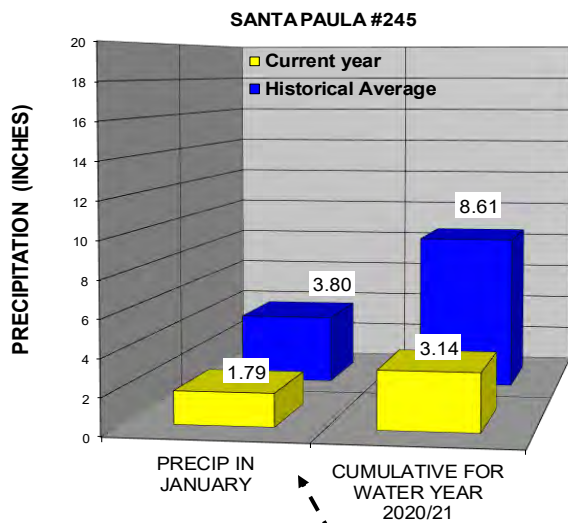
February 2, 2021



*Note: This report may contain provisional data until final review at the end of the water year.*

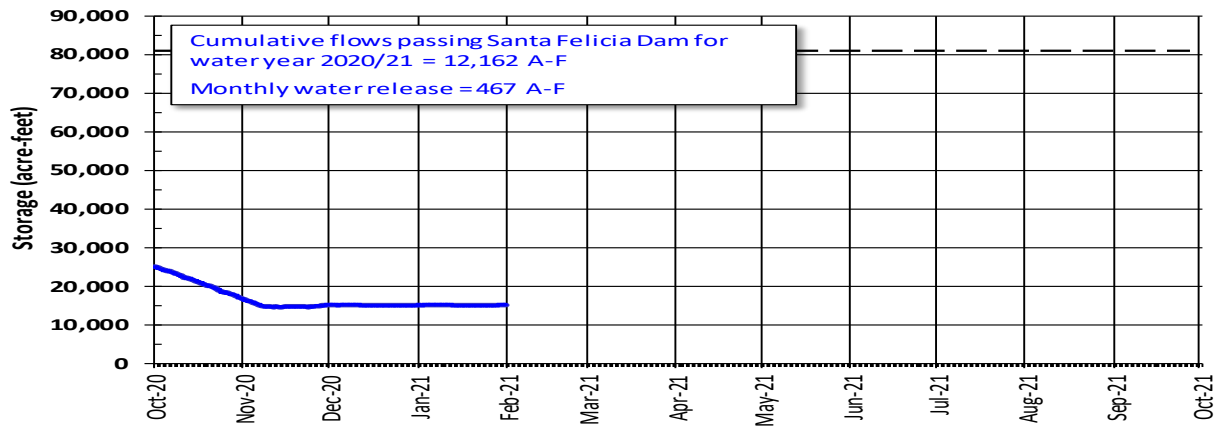
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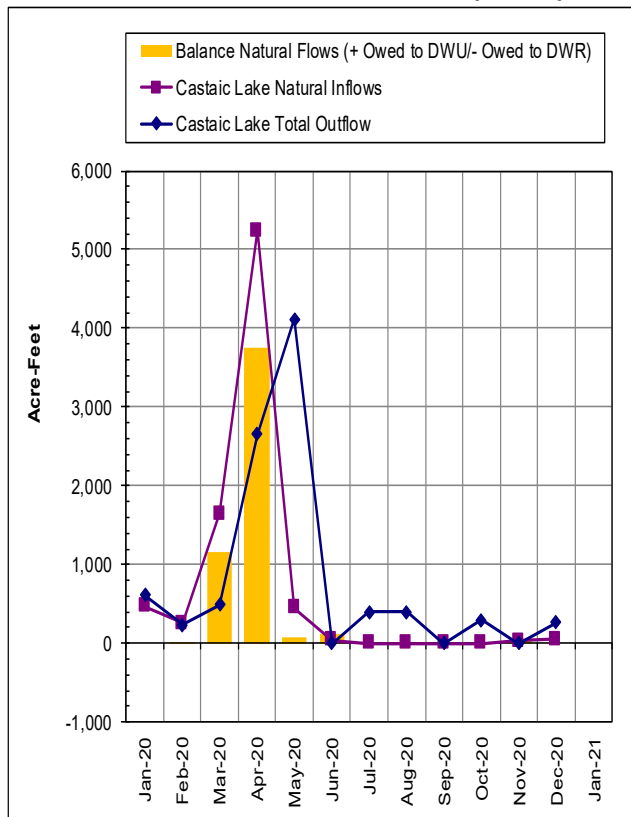
**District-wide percent of normal precipitation = 34%**

## Lake Piru storage and outflow

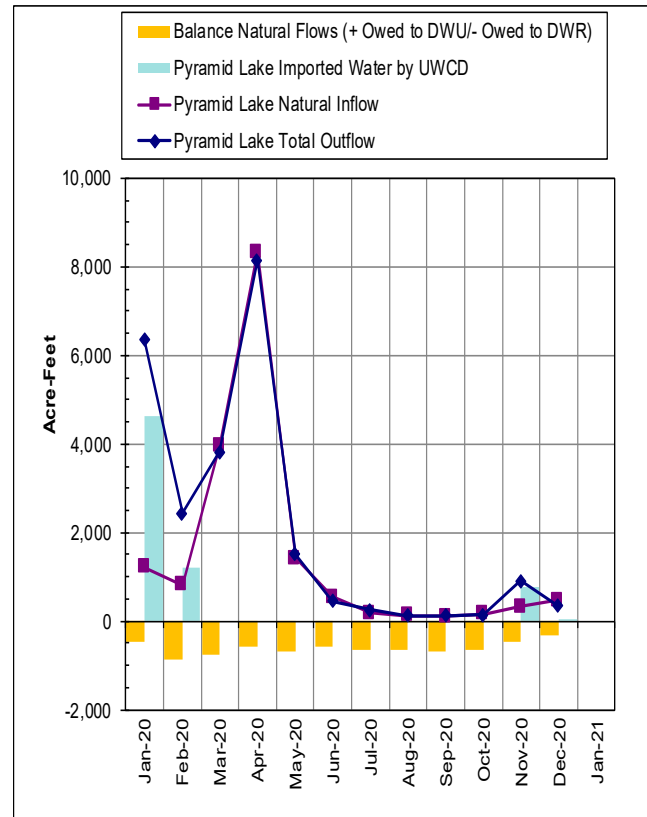


	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Hydro Plant Outflow (Acre-Feet)	4,345	214	0	0								
Cumulative Hydro Plant Outflow (A-F)	4,345	4,559	4,559	4,559								

## Castaic Lake releases to downstream water users (DWU)

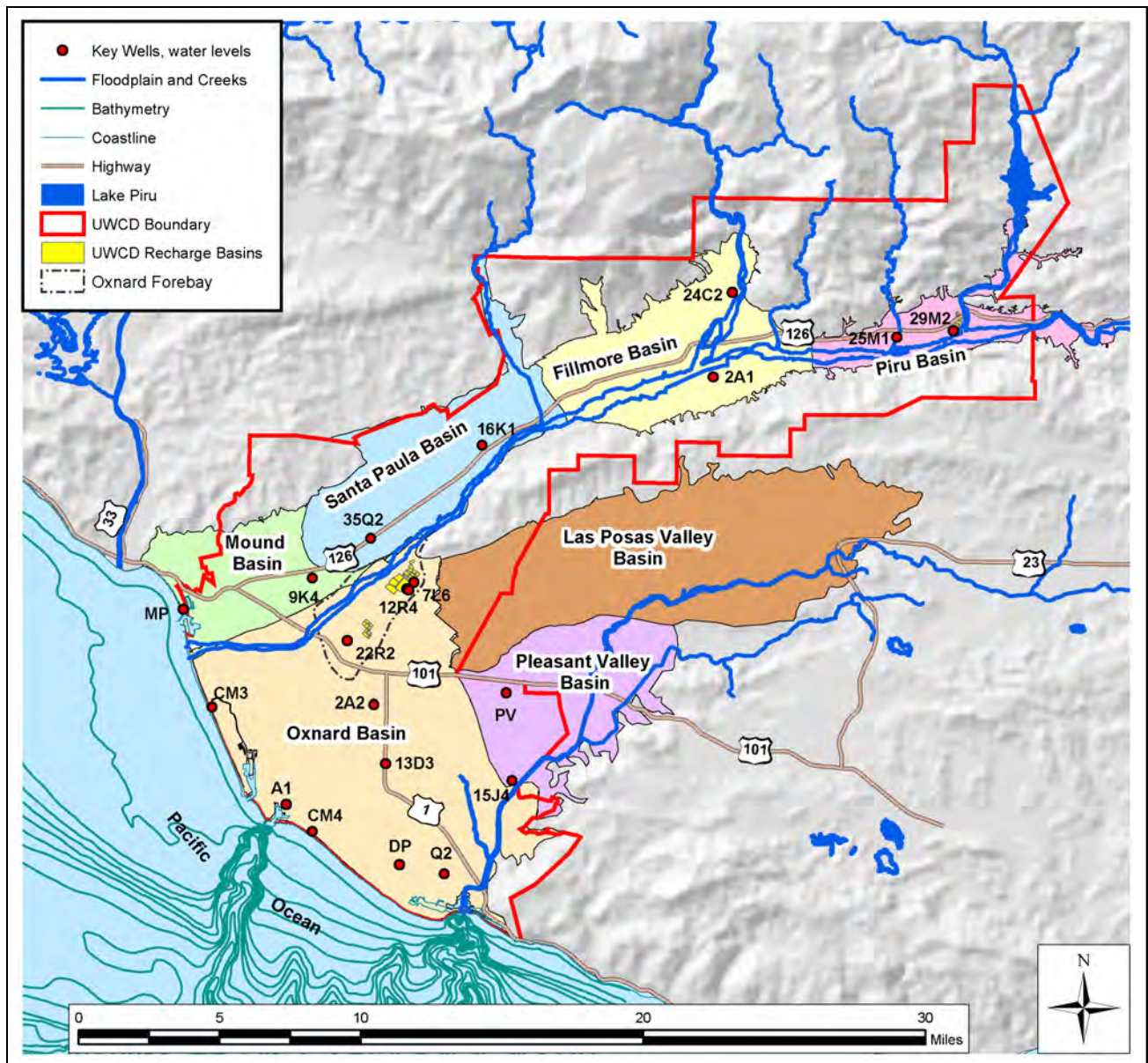


## Pyramid Lake releases to UWCD

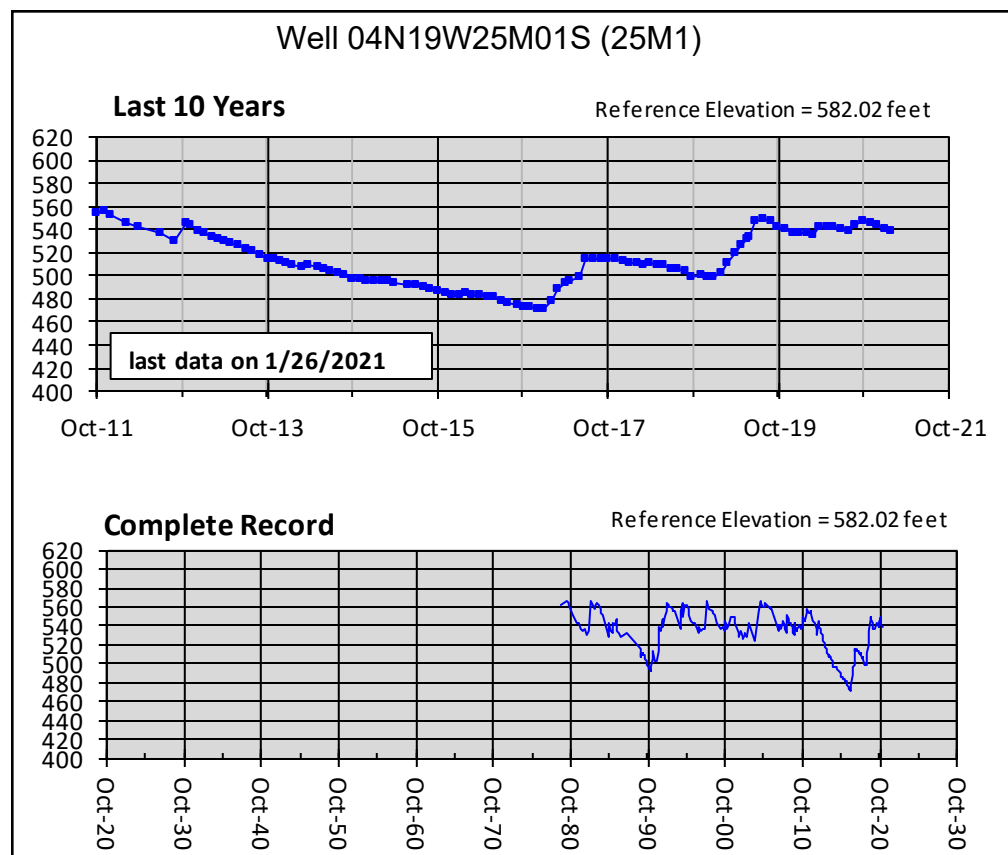
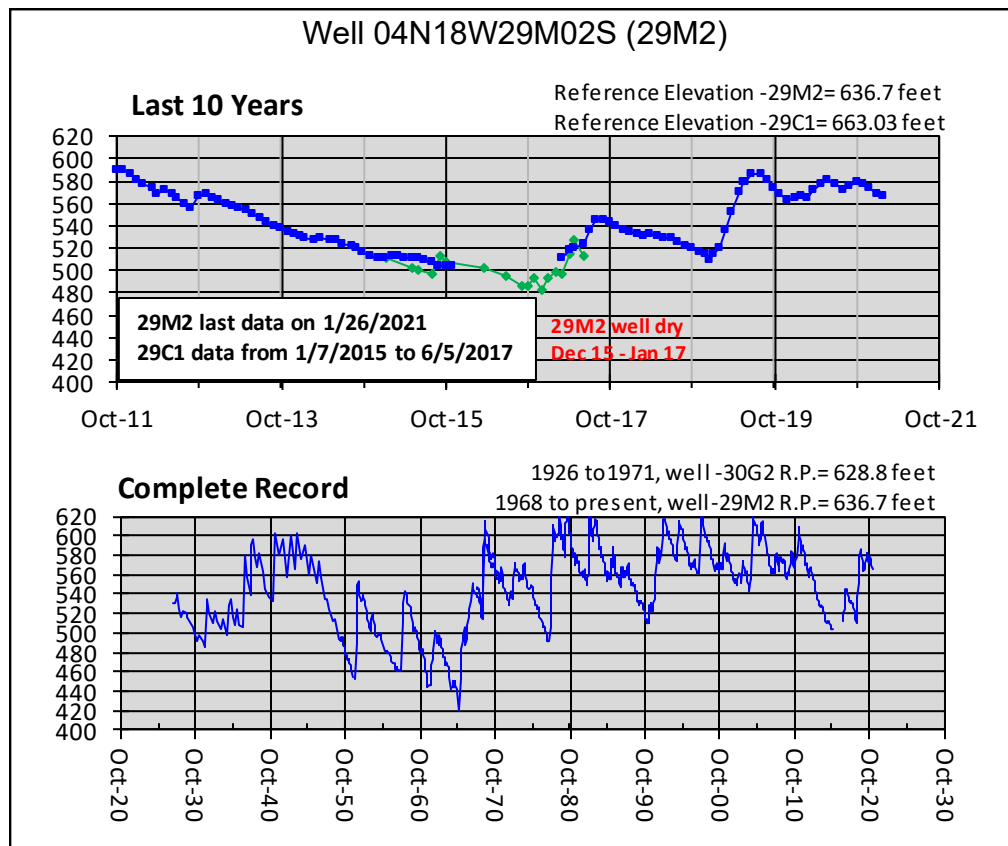




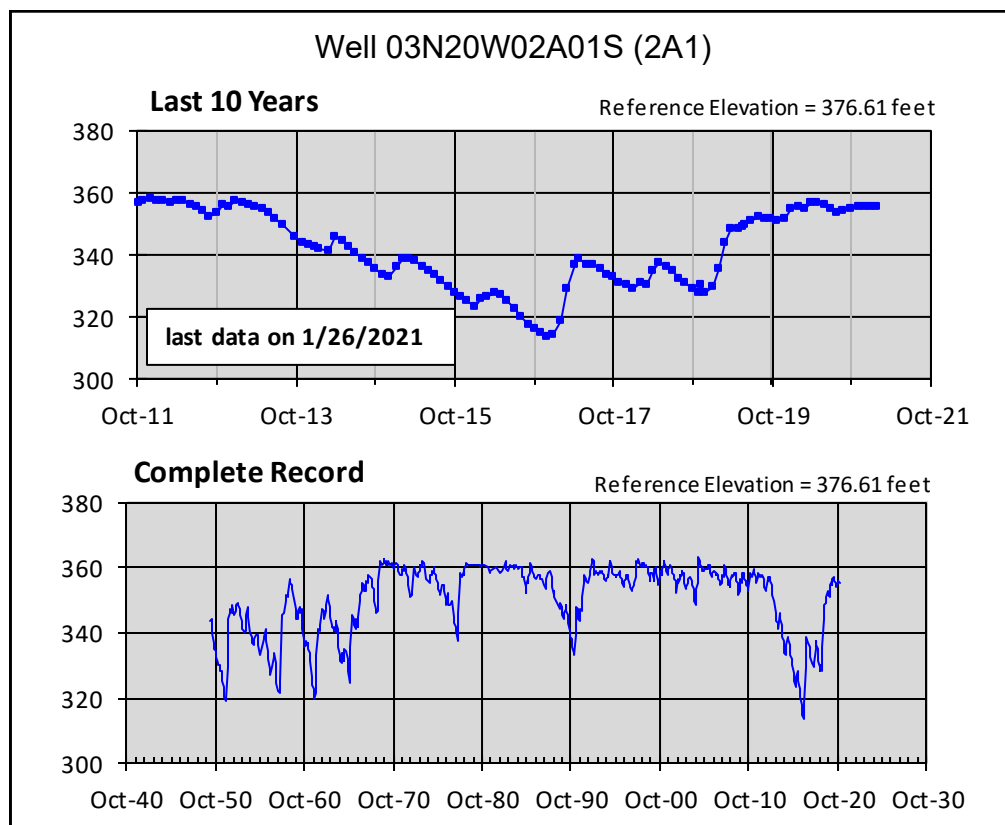
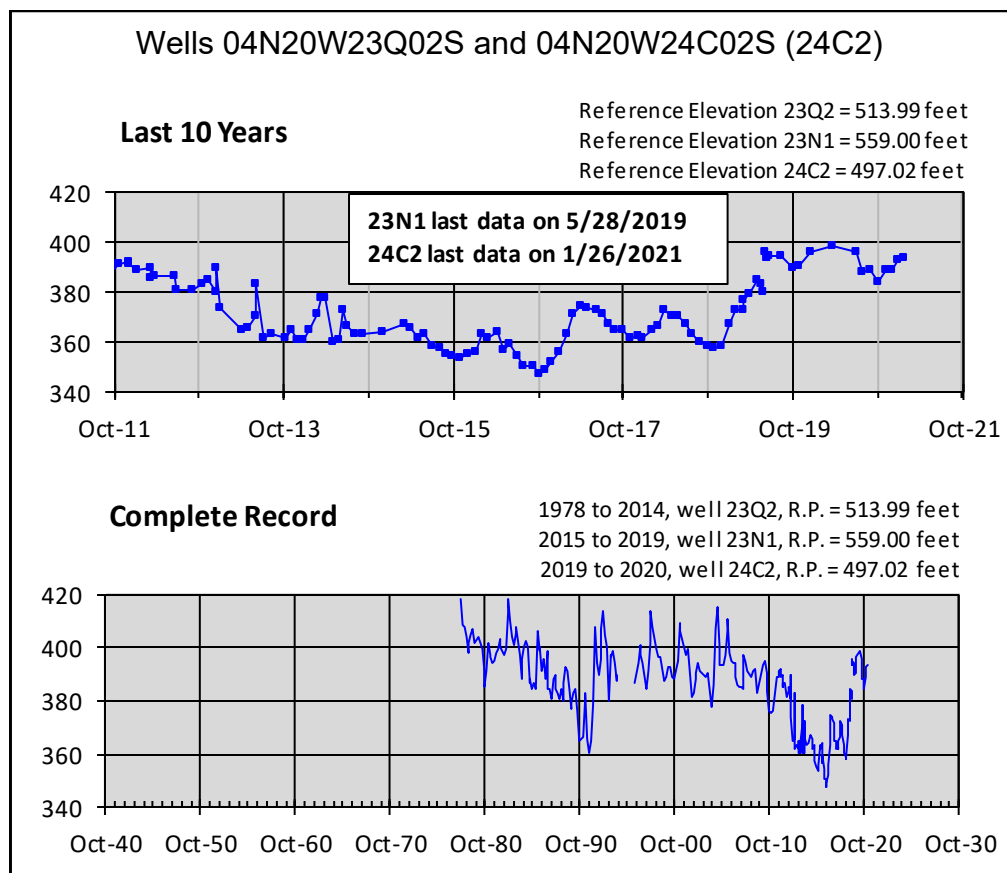
## Locations of key wells, monthly groundwater elevation monitoring



## Piru Basin Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records

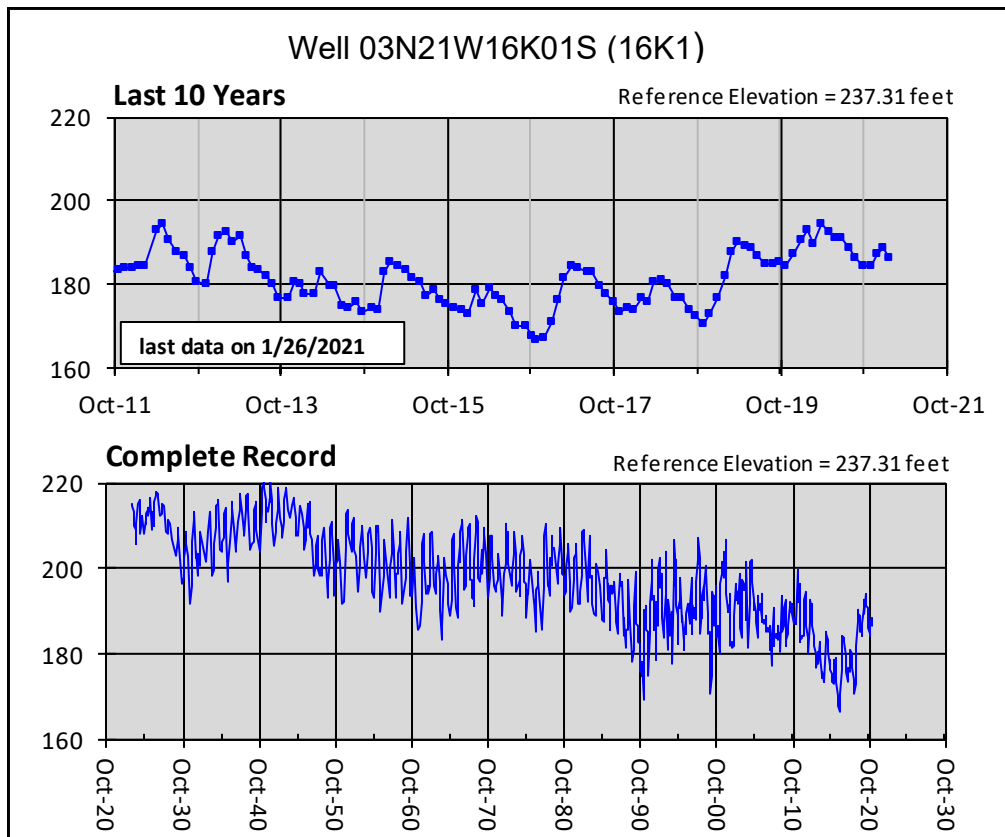


## Fillmore Basin Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records

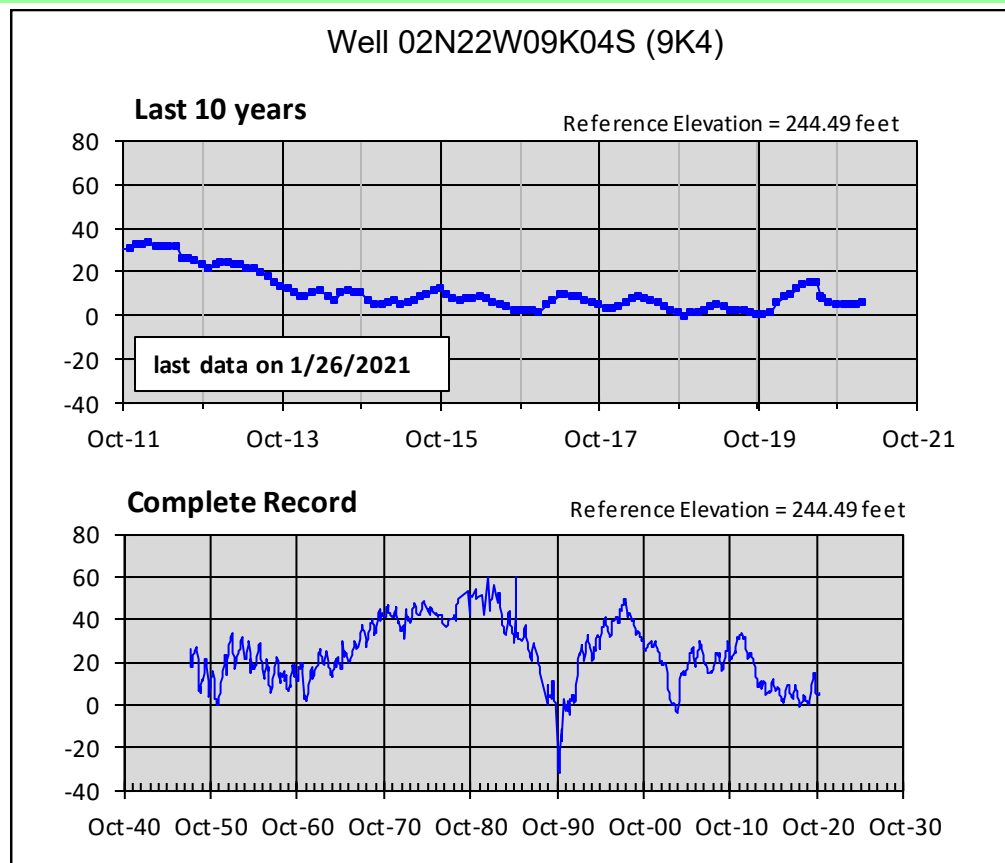


## Groundwater Elevation Records

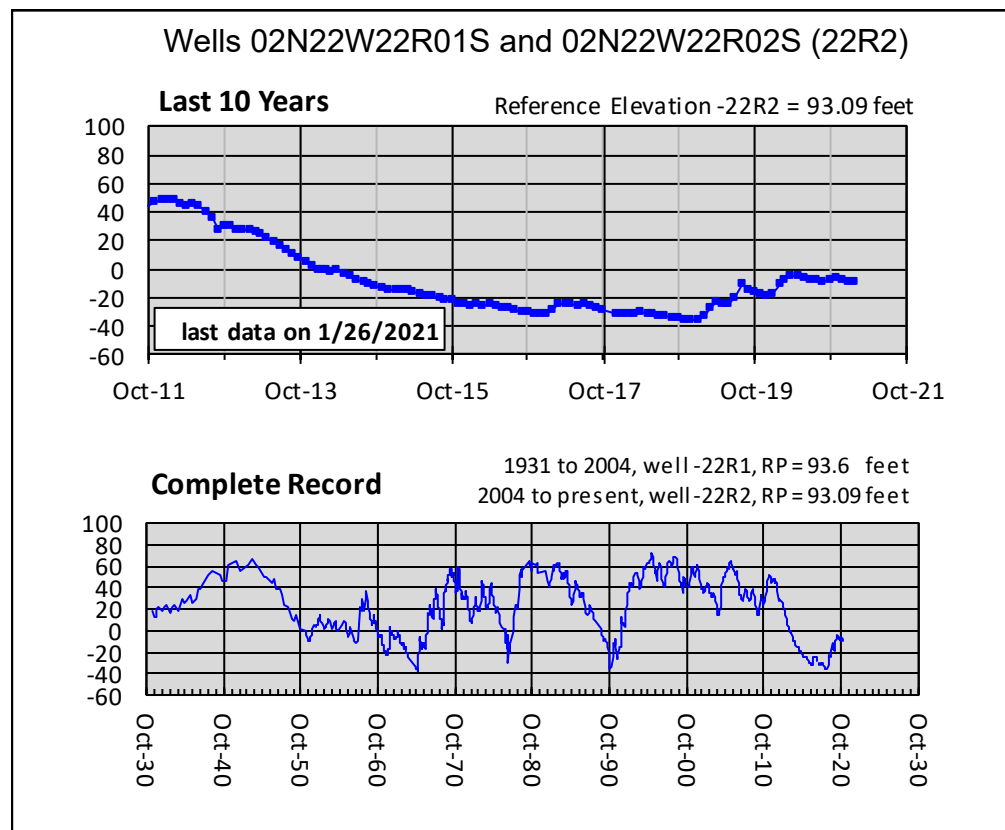
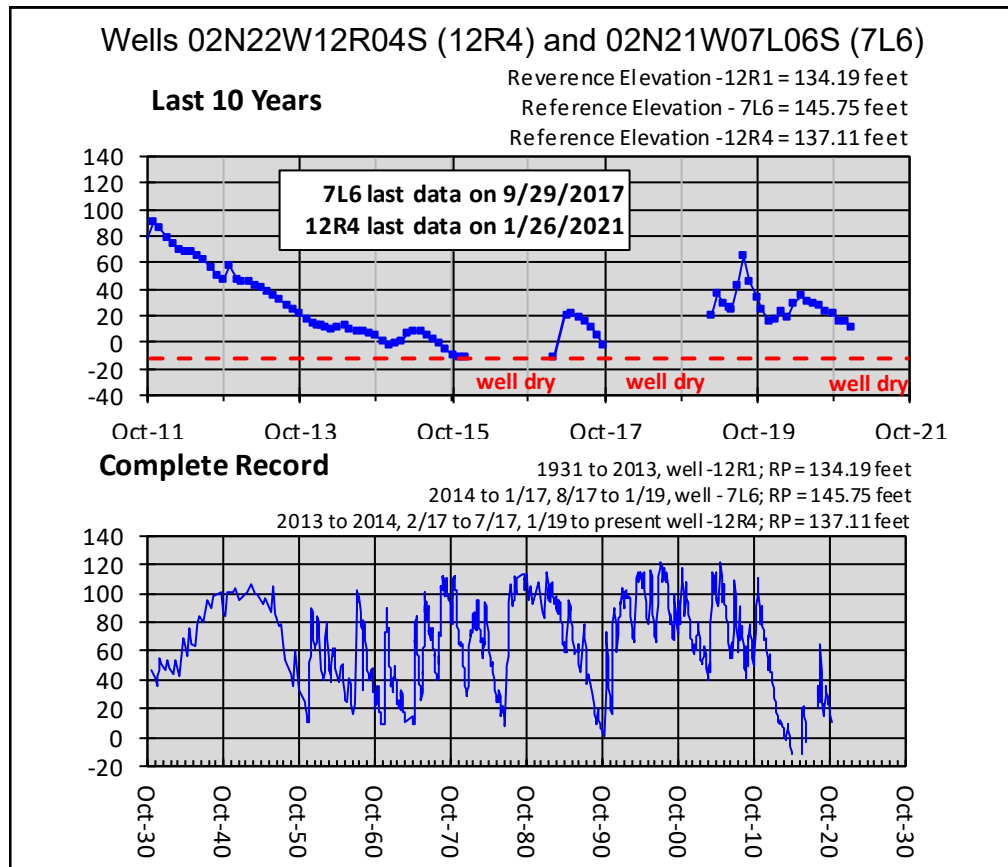
### Santa Paula Basin Key Well



### Mound Basin Key Well

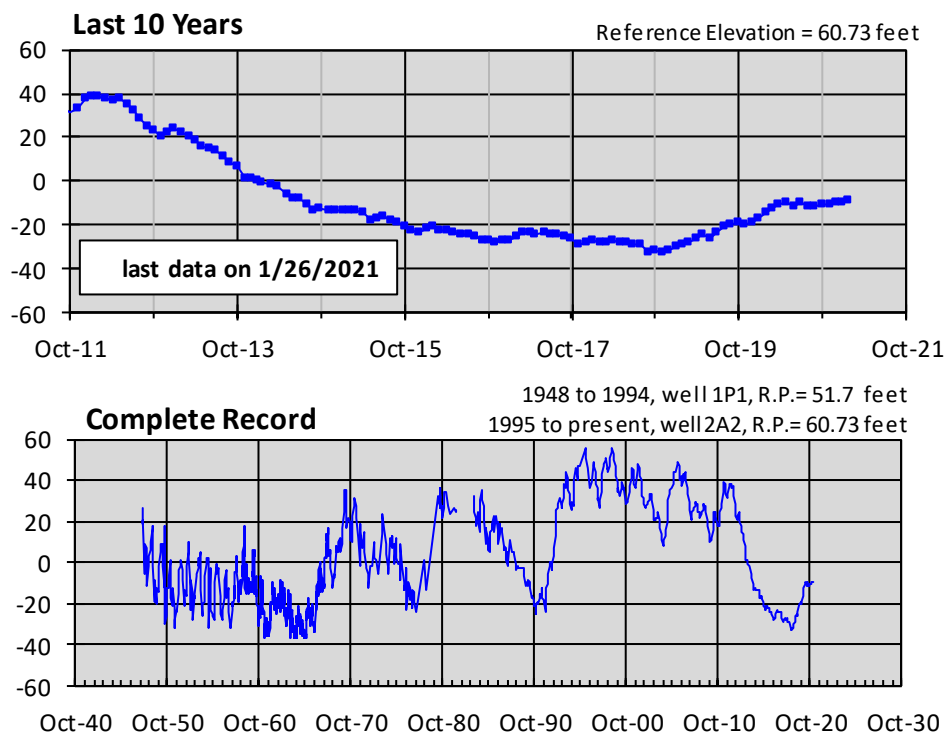


## Oxnard Basin—Forebay Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records

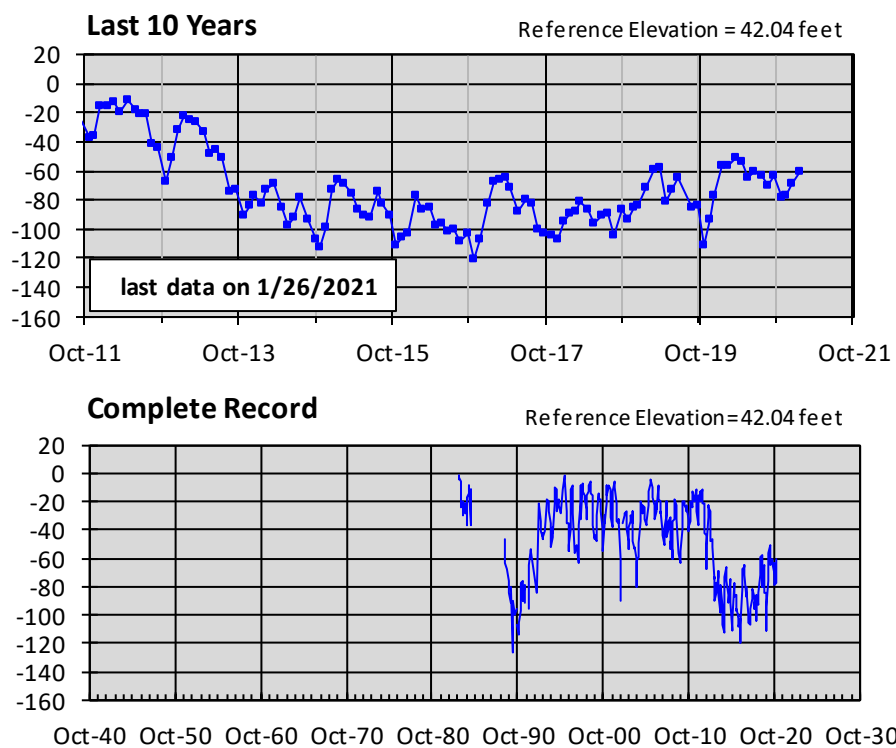


## Oxnard Basin Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records

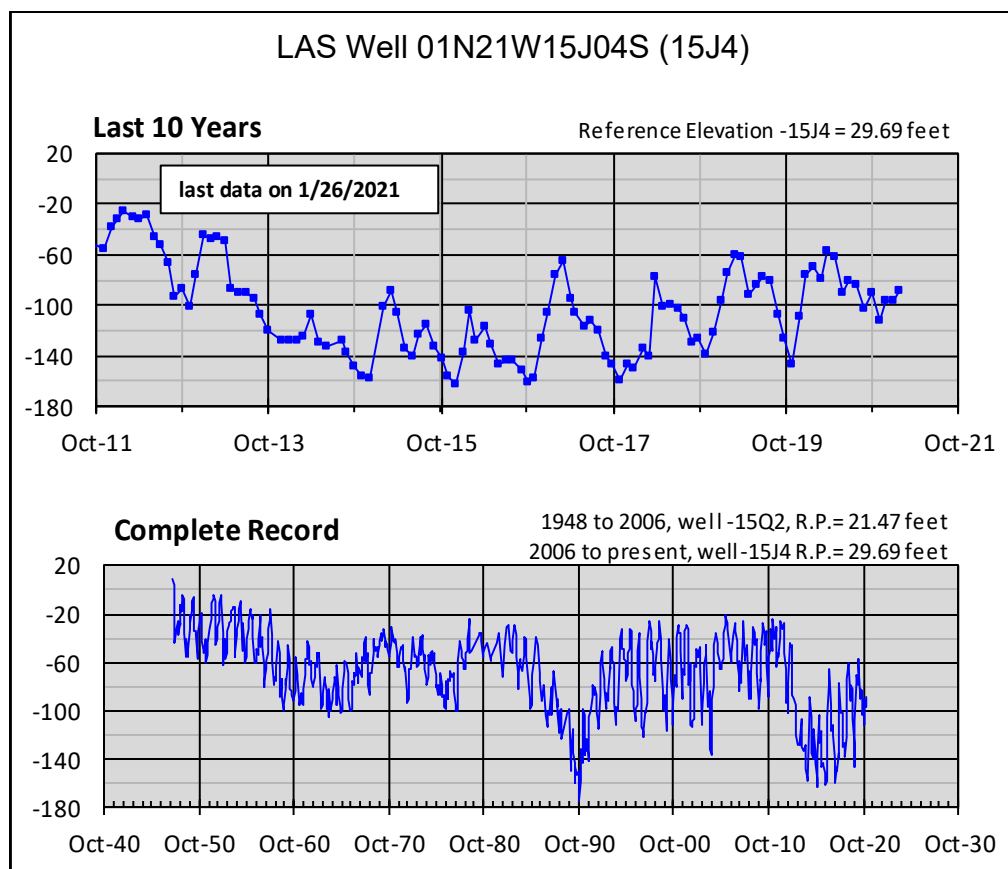
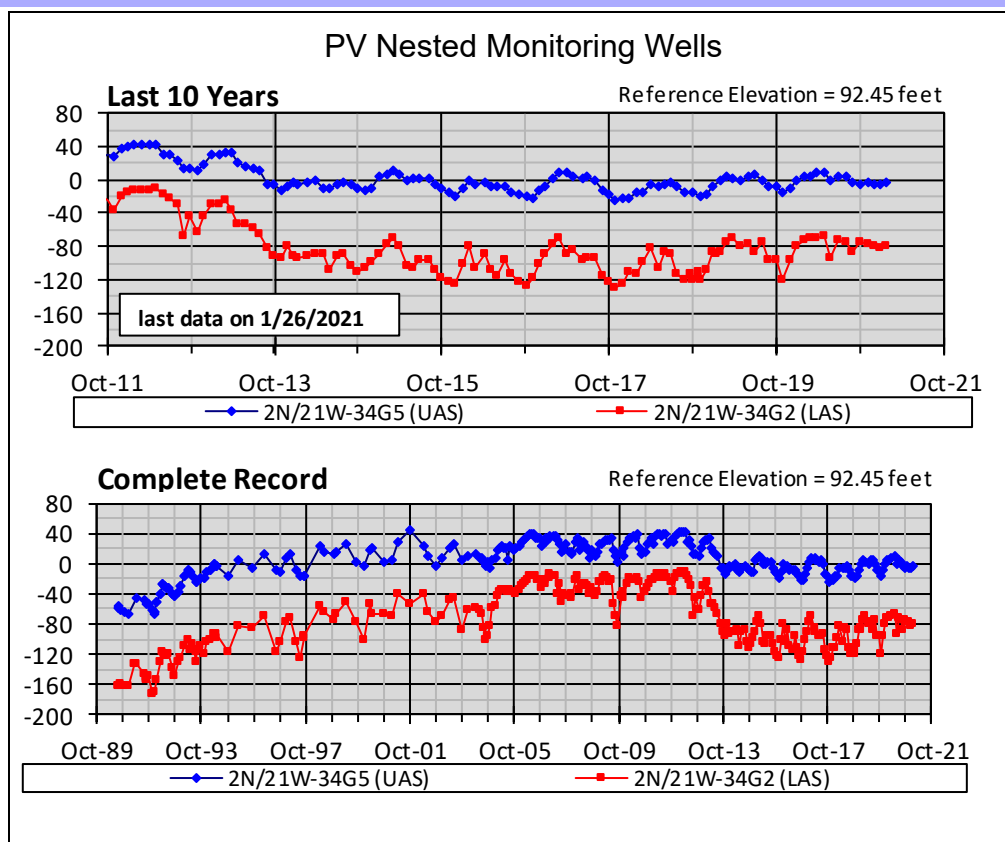
UAS Well 01N22W02A02S (2A2)



LAS well 01N22W13D03S (13D3)



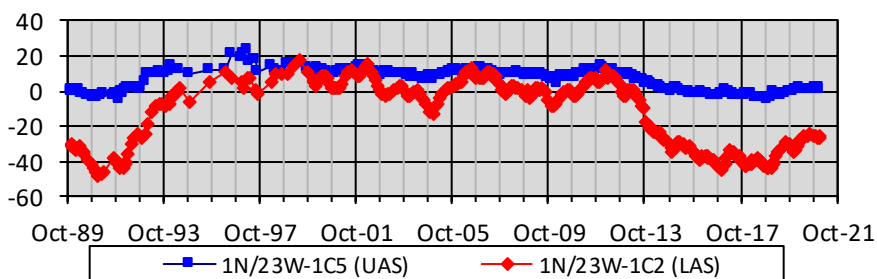
# Pleasant Valley Basin Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records



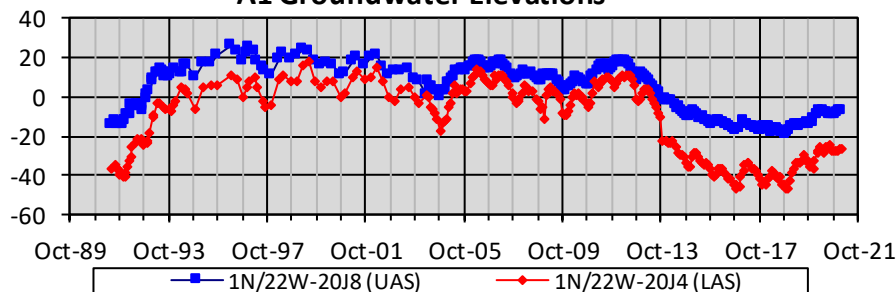


## Oxnard Plain Coastal Key Wells—Nested Monitoring Wells

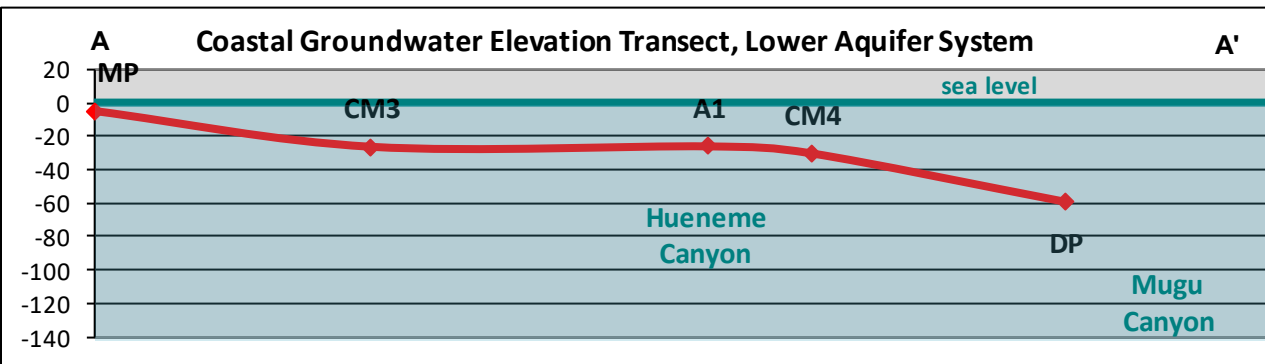
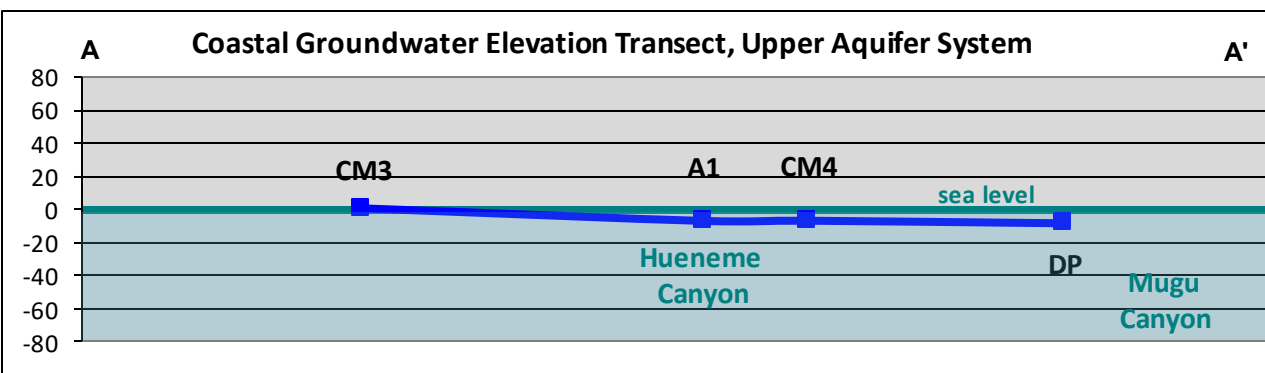
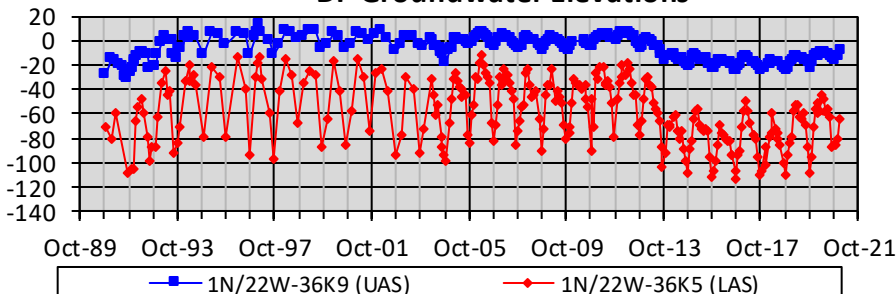
**CM3 Groundwater Elevations**



**A1 Groundwater Elevations**



**DP Groundwater Elevations**





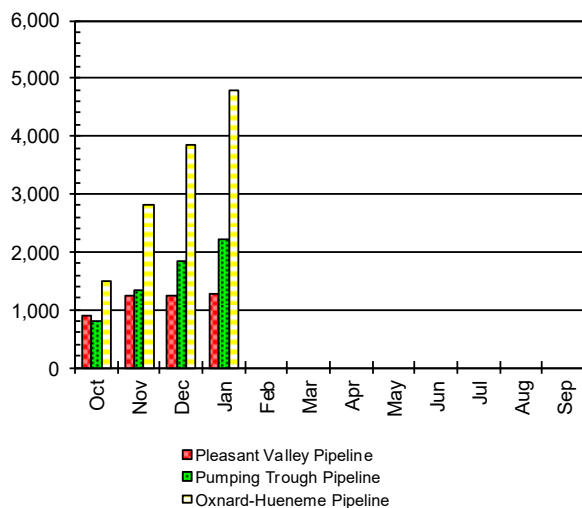
### Monthly Water Deliveries, acre-feet (Water Year 2020/21)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
PV Pipeline (surface water)	902.5	329.0	13.4	16.9								
PV Pipeline (saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0								
Total to Pleasant Valley Pipeline	902.5	329.0	13.4	16.9								
Saticoy Well Field	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0								
PTP (surface water)	783.7	422.6	483.9	390.7								
PTP (groundwater)	24.8	92.3	19.0	0.6								
PTP (Saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0								
Total PTP	808.5	514.9	502.9	391.3								
O-H Pipeline (groundwater)	1,503.0	1,296.0	1,063.0	936.0								
Total Surface Water Delivery (PTP & PV)	1,686.2	751.6	497.3	407.6								
Total Groundwater Delivery (OH & PTP)	1,527.8	1,388.3	1,082.0	936.6								
Total Delivery, Surface Water & GW	3,214.0	2,139.9	1,579.3	1,344.2								

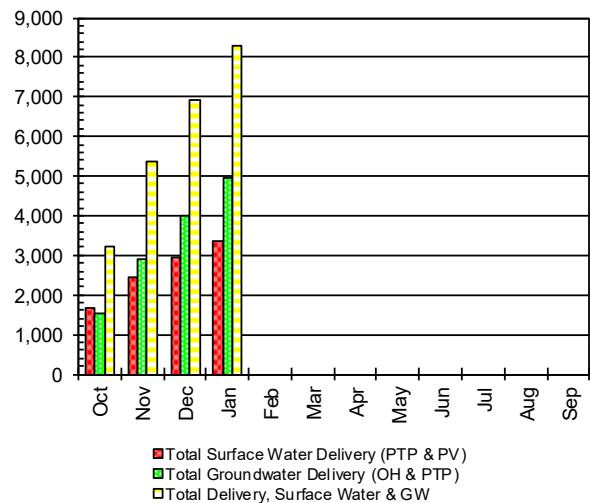
### Cumulative Water Deliveries, acre-feet (Water Year 2020/21)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
PV Pipeline (surface water)	902.5	1,231.5	1,244.9	1,261.7								
PV Pipeline (saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0								
Total to Pleasant Valley Pipeline	902.5	1,231.5	1,244.9	1,261.7								
Saticoy Well Field	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0								
PTP (surface water)	783.7	1,206.3	1,690.2	2,080.9								
PTP (groundwater)	24.8	117.1	136.1	136.7								
PTP (Saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0								
Total PTP	808.5	1,323.4	1,826.3	2,217.6								
O-H Pipeline (groundwater)	1,503.0	2,799.0	3,862.0	4,798.0								
Total Surface Water Delivery (PTP & PV)	1,686.2	2,437.8	2,935.1	3,342.6								
Total Groundwater Delivery (OH & PTP)	1,527.8	2,916.1	3,998.1	4,934.7								
Total Delivery, Surface Water & GW	3,214.0	5,353.9	6,933.2	8,277.4								

#### Cumulative deliveries by system



#### Cumulative deliveries by source/type



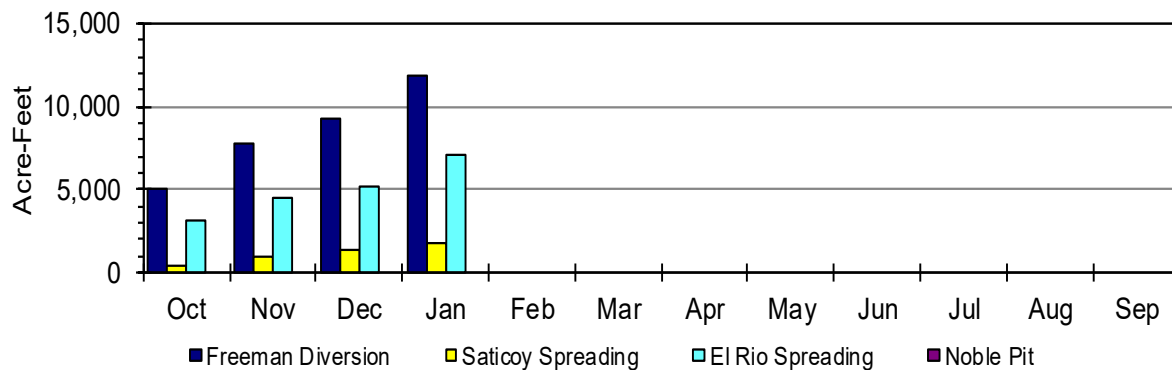
### Monthly diversion and recharge totals by facility, 2020/21, in acre-feet

Month	Piru Spreading	Freeman Diversion	Saticoy Spreading	El Rio Spreading	Noble Pit
Oct	0	5,073	365	3,155	0
Nov	0	2,661	612	1,366	0
Dec	0	1,477	392	634	0
Jan	0	2,703	374	1,960	0
Feb					
Mar					
Apr					
May					
Jun					
Jul					
Aug					
Sep					

### Cumulative diversion and recharge totals by facility, 2020/21, in acre-feet

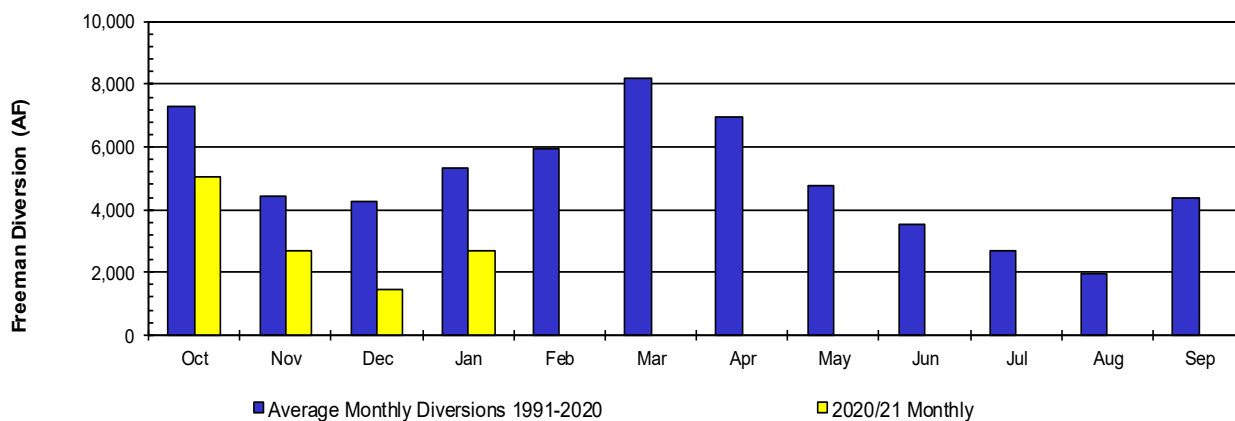
Month	Piru Spreading	Freeman Diversion	Saticoy Spreading	El Rio Spreading	Noble Pit
Oct	0	5,073	365	3,155	0
Nov	0	7,734	977	4,521	0
Dec	0	9,211	1,369	5,155	0
Jan	0	11,914	1,743	7,115	0
Feb					
Mar					
Apr					
May					
Jun					
Jul					
Aug					
Sep					

### Cumulative diversion at Freeman, and distribution to recharge facilities

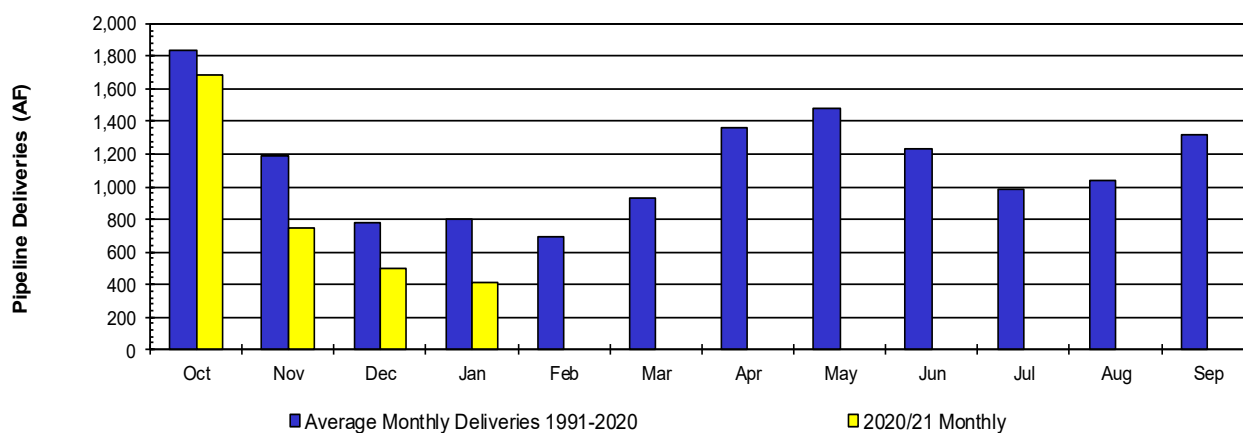


**Cumulative diversions to Piru Spreading Grounds, 2020/21 = 0 AF**

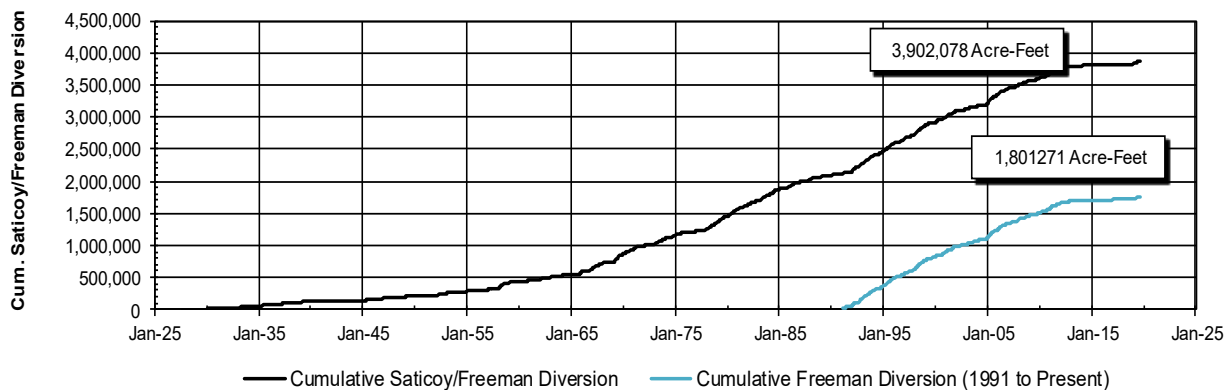
**Monthly 2020/21 diversion at Freeman, compared to average monthly diversions (1991-2019)**



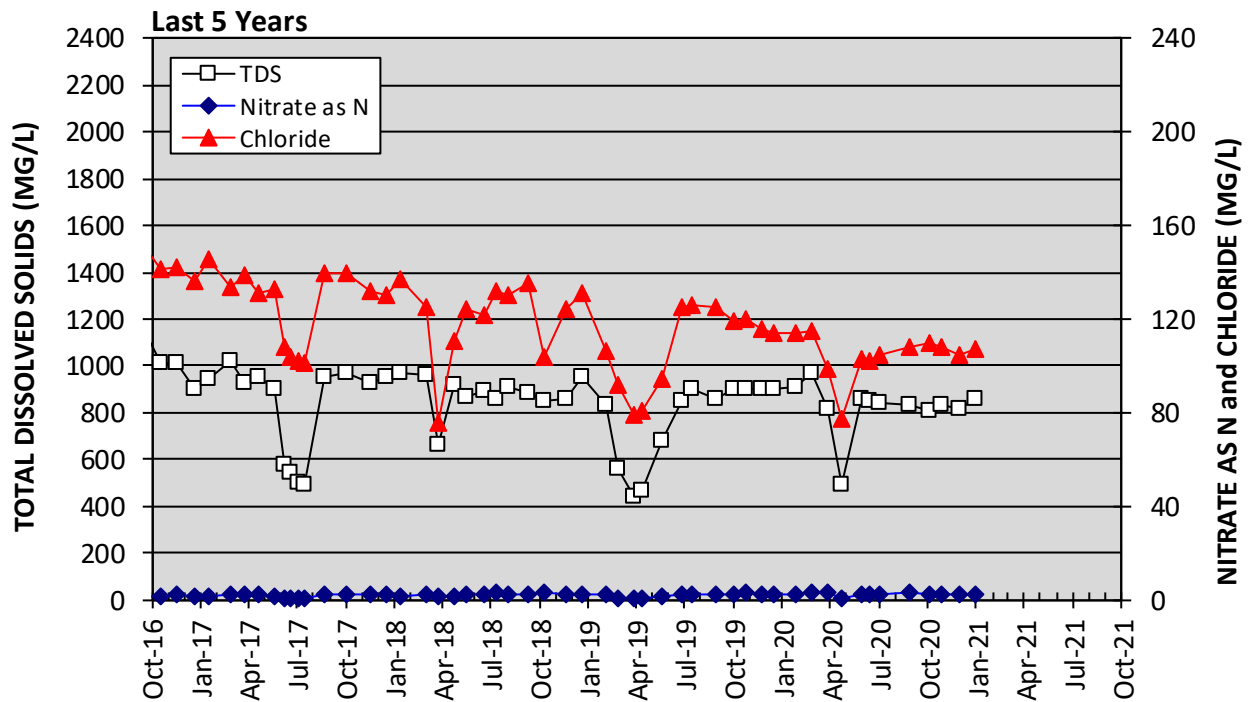
**Monthly 2020/21 pipeline deliveries (surface water deliveries), compared to average monthly pipeline deliveries (1991-2019)**



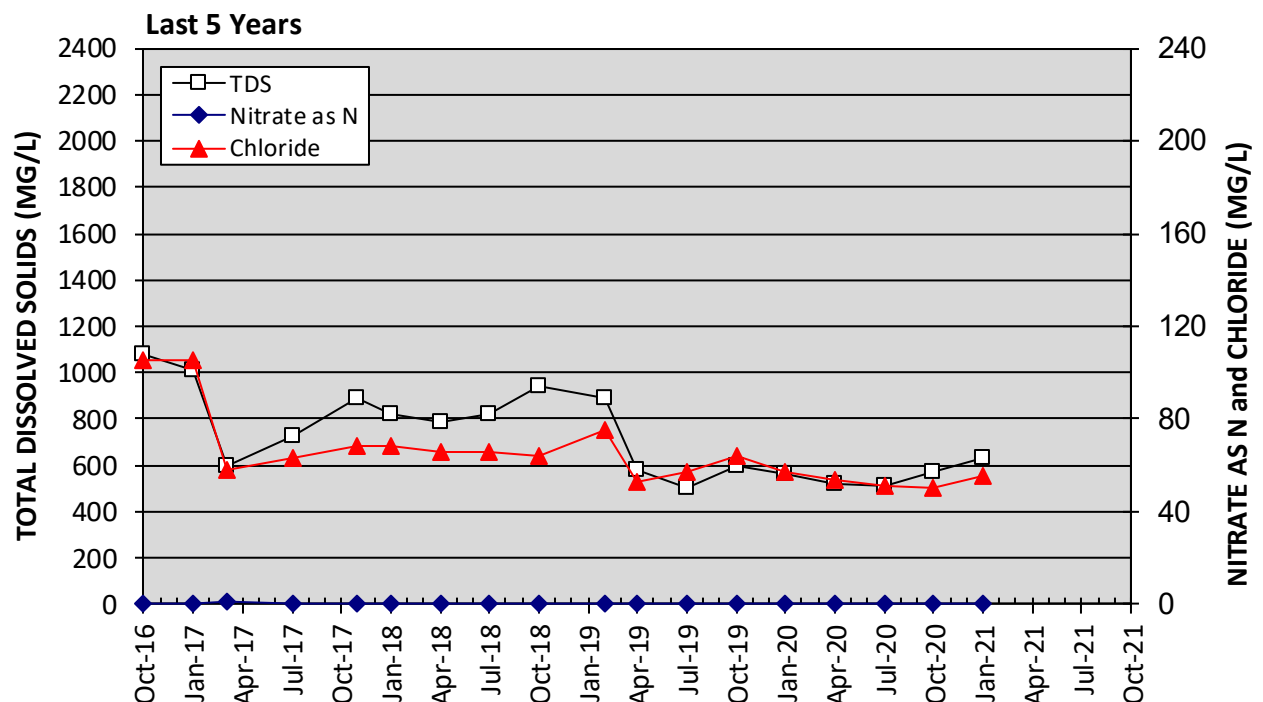
**Cumulative diversion at Saticoy and Freeman Diversion, in acre-feet**



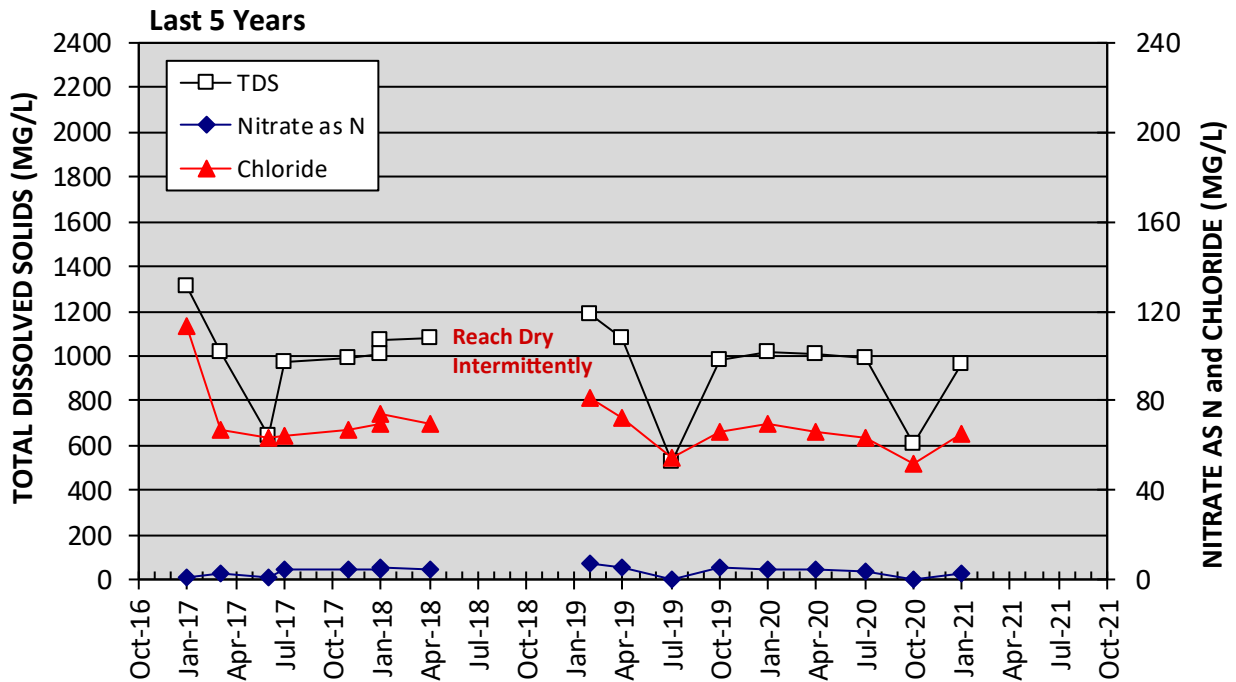
### Santa Clara River water quality near Los Angeles/Ventura County line



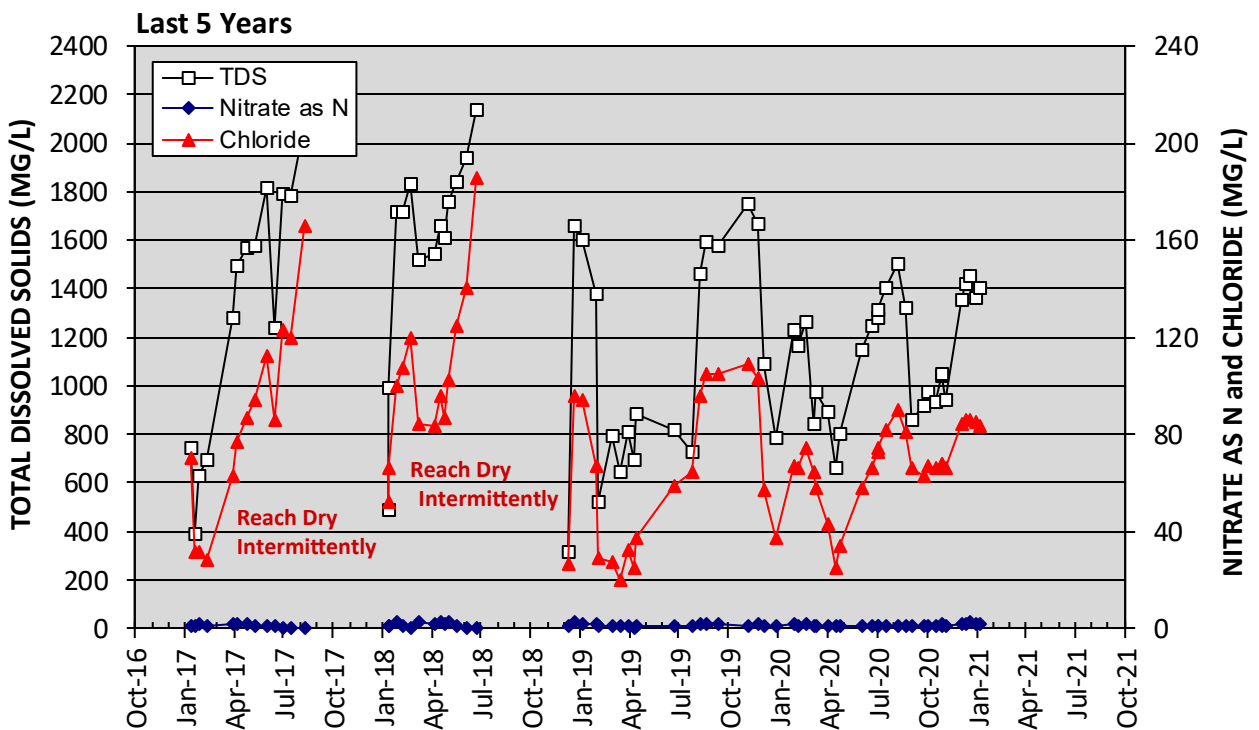
### Piru Creek water quality below Santa Felicia Dam



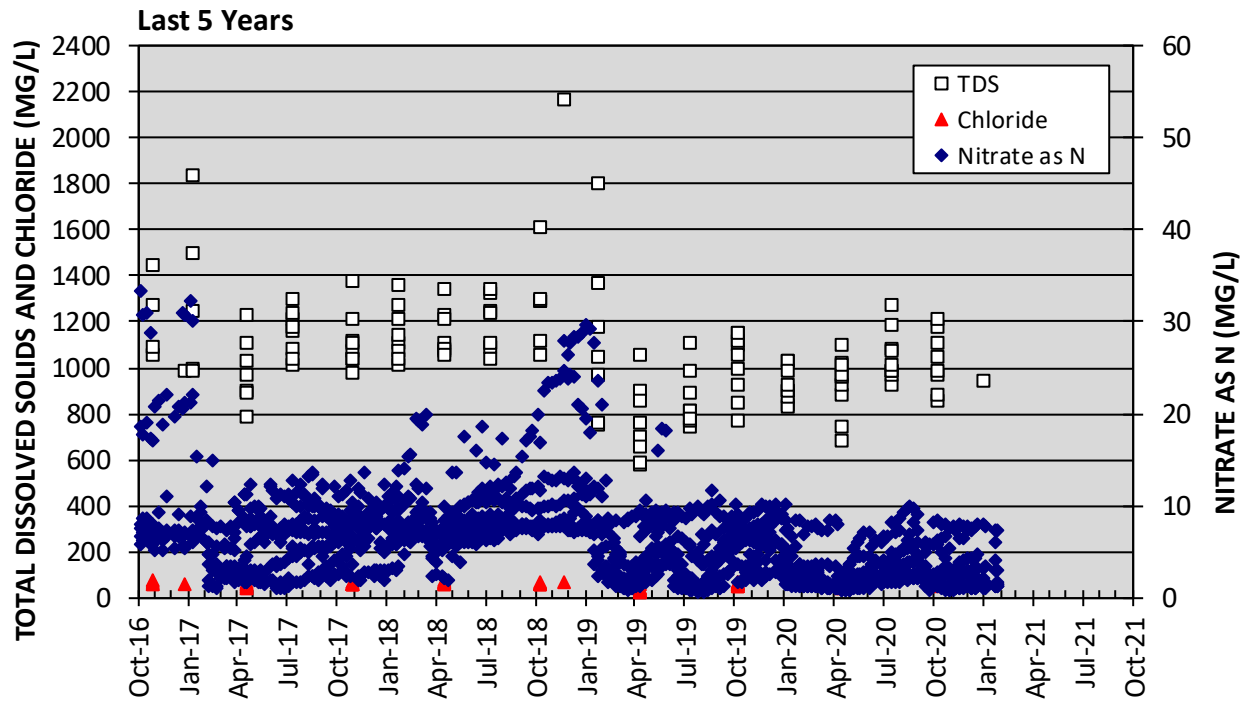
## Santa Clara River water quality near Fillmore Fish Hatchery



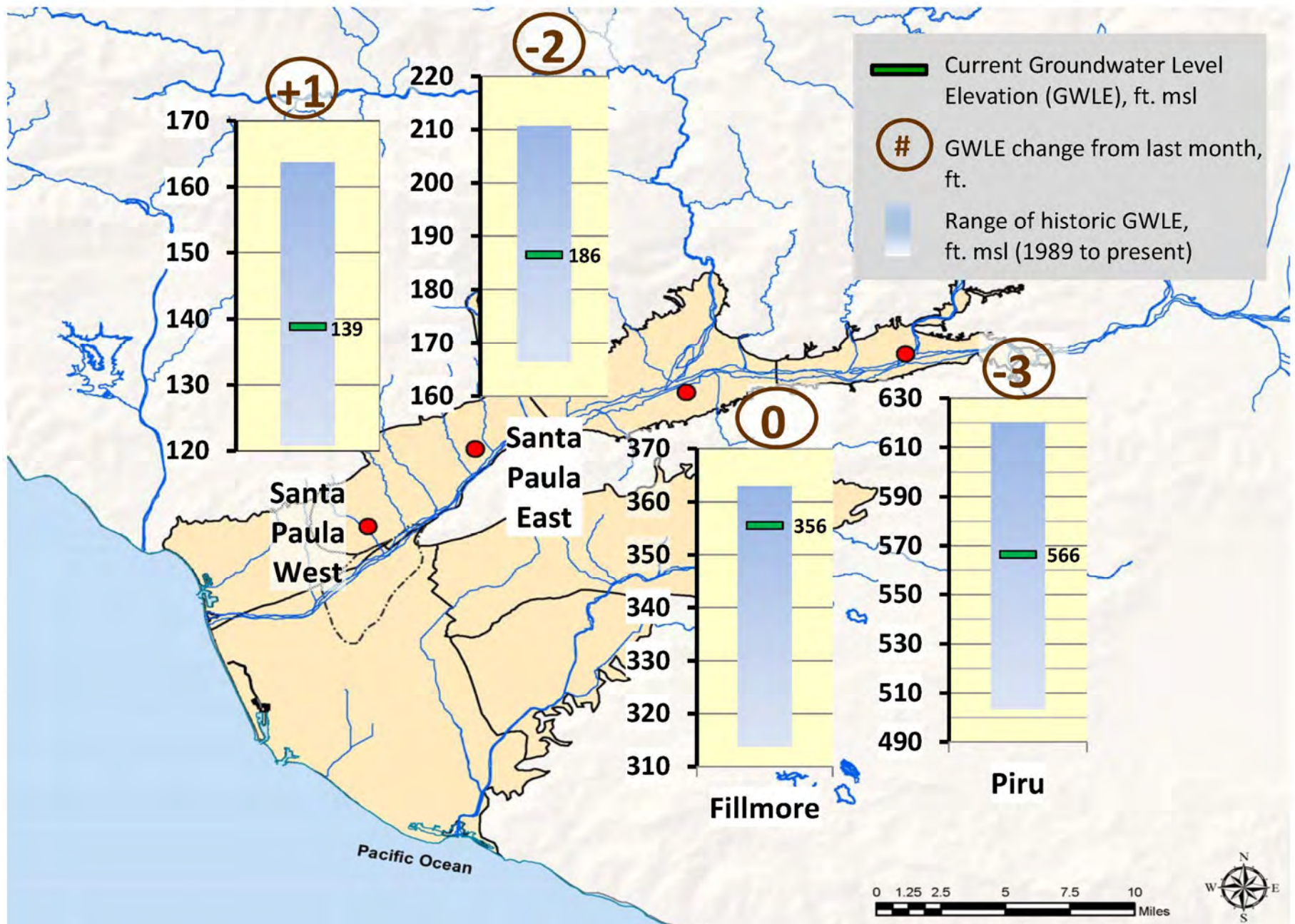
## Santa Clara River water quality at Freeman Diversion

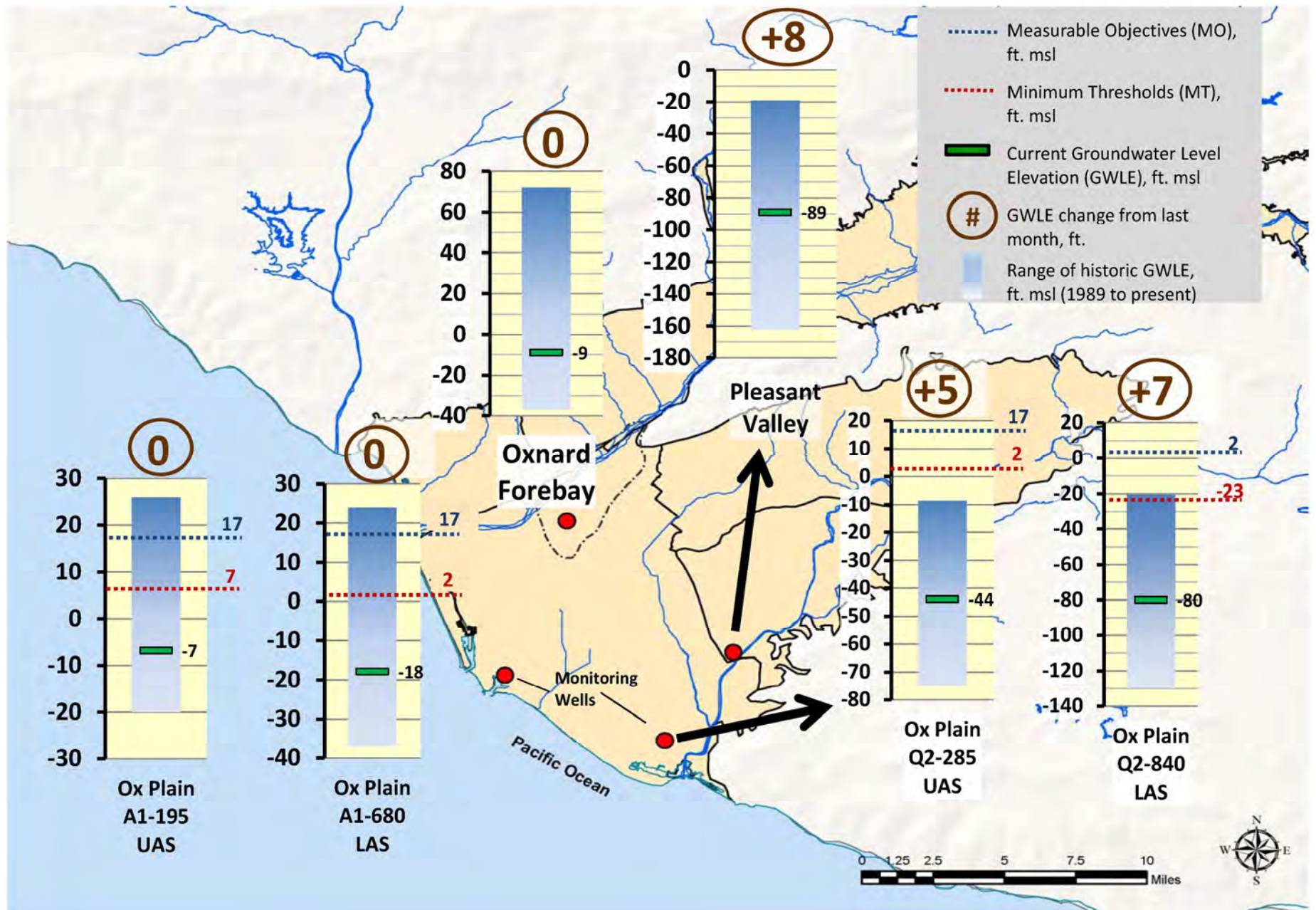


## Water quality of Upper Aquifer System wells, El Rio well field



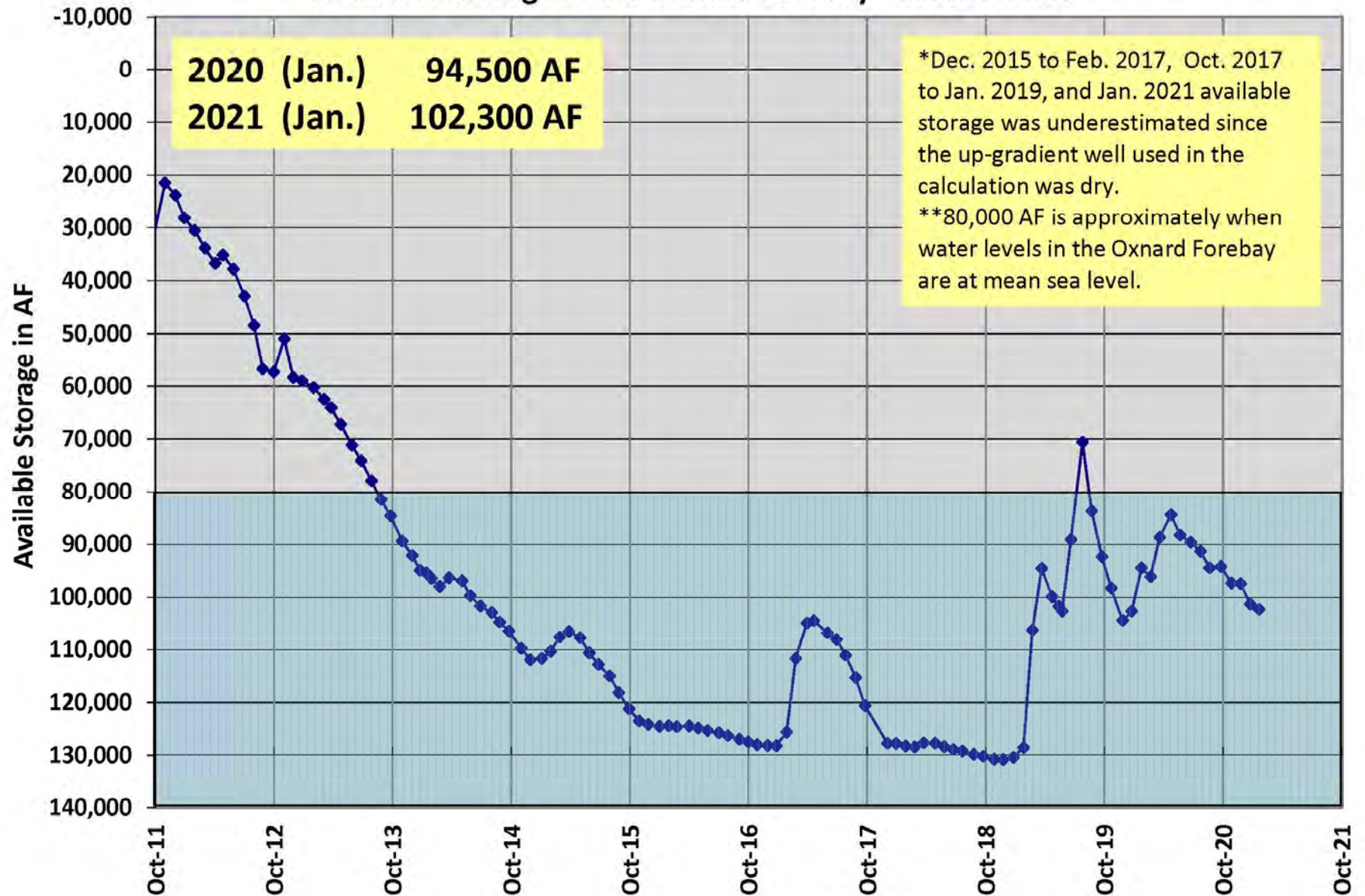


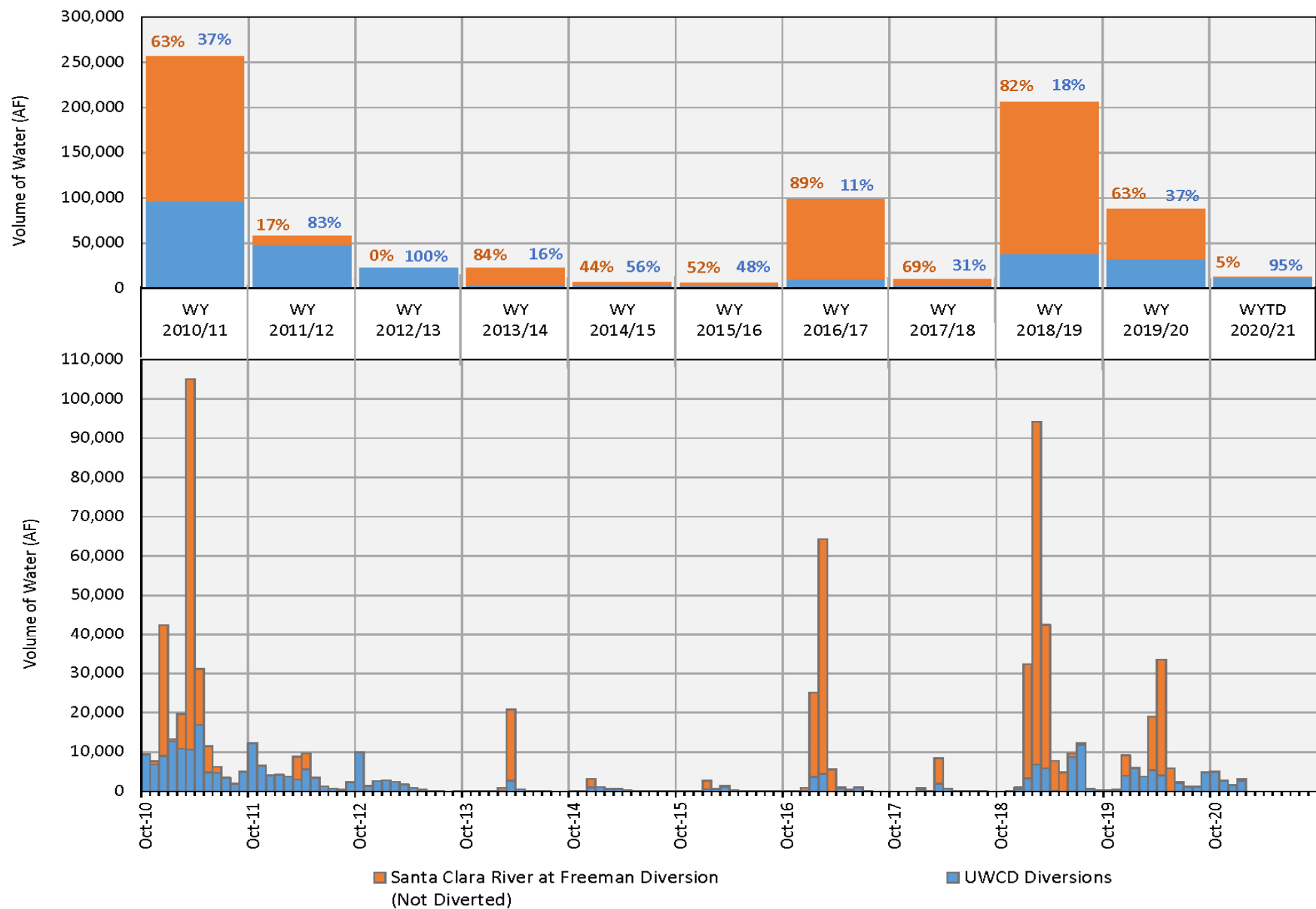






## Available Storage in the Oxnard Forebay - Last 10 Years





Water Year (WY) = October 1 to September 30; WYTD = Water Year To Date



To: **UWCD Board of Directors**

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

From: Joseph Jereb, Chief Financial Officer

Date: **February 2, 2021 (February 10, 2021 meeting)**

Agenda Item: **3.C Monthly (December 31, 2020) Investment and Pipeline  
Delivery Reports  
Information Item**

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**Recommendation**

The Board will review and discuss the most current investment and pipeline delivery reports for December 31, 2020 that are enclosed. Based on the information provided, and the ensuing discussion, provide any necessary direction to staff.

**Fiscal Impact**

As shown.

**Discussion**

Based on the information included in the attached reports, staff will present a summary and discuss key information as an overview.

Attachment: Combined Investment Report

**United Water Conservation District**  
**Monthly Investment Report**  
**December 31, 2020**

<b><u>Investment Recap</u></b>	<b><u>G/L Balance</u></b>	<b><u>Weighted Avg Days to Maturity</u></b>	<b><u>Diversification Percentage of Total</u></b>
Bank of the Sierra	3,292,394	1	7.07%
Union Bank - Bond Proceeds	19,000,164	1	40.80%
Petty Cash	1,000	1	0.00%
County Treasury	1,444	1	0.00%
LAIF Investments	24,268,872	1	52.11%
<b>Total Cash, Cash Equivalents and Securities</b>	<b>46,563,875</b>		<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Investment Portfolio w/o Trustee Held Funds</b>	<b>46,563,875</b>		
<b>Trustee Held Funds</b>	<b>-</b>		
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>46,563,875</b>		

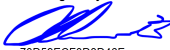
<b>Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Deposits (Disbursements)</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
	24,268,872	-	24,268,872
	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Interest</b>	
	<b>Earned YTD</b>	<b>Received YTD</b>	<b>Qtrly Yield</b>
	99,392	200,267	0.63%

All District investments are shown above and conform to the District's Investment Policy. All investment transactions during this period are included in this report  
Based on budgeted cash flows the District appears to have the ability to meet its expenditure requirements for the next six months.

DocuSigned by:  
  
36D23F9D982745E...  
**Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager**

2/2/2021

**Date Certified**

DocuSigned by:  
  
70D59ECF0D8D46E...  
**Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager**

2/2/2021

**Date Certified**

DocuSigned by:  
  
306DA3150F61440...  
**Joseph Jereb, Chief Financial Officer**

2/2/2021

**Date Certified**

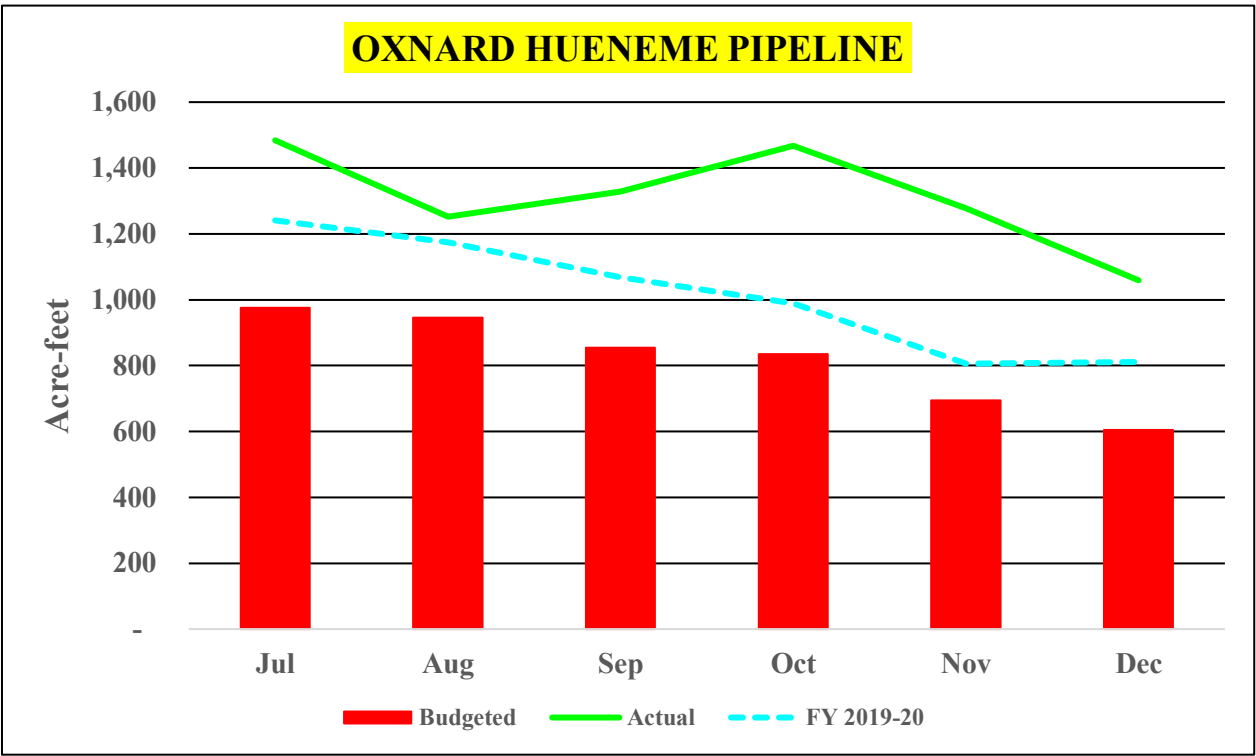


<b><i>United Water Conservation District</i></b>			
<b><i>Cash Position</i></b>			
<b>December 31, 2021</b>			
<b>Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Composition</b>	<b>Restrictions/Designations</b>
<b>General/Water Conservation Fund:</b>			<b>Revenue collected for district operations</b>
General/Water Conservation	9,375,990	368,716	Includes General, Rec & Ranger, Water Conservation
		1	Reserved for future debt repayment 2009 COP
		1,725,000	Reserved for legal expenditures
		5,435,000	Designated for replacement, capital improvements, and environmental projects
		1,847,273	Supplemental Water Purchase Fund
General CIP Funds	4,044,683	4,044,683	Appropriated for capital projects
2020 COP Bond Funds	18,765,457	18,765,457	Reserved for CIP Projects
<b>Special Revenue Funds:</b>			<b>Revenue collected for a special purpose</b>
State Water Project Funds	3,370,155	3,370,155	Procurement of water/rights from state water project
<b>Enterprise Funds:</b>			<b>Restricted to fund usage</b>
Freeman Fund	(594,680)	(594,680)	Operations, Debt Service and Capital Projects
		-	Designated for replacement and capital improvements
		-	Reserved for legal expenditures
Freeman CIP Fund	4,399,434	4,399,434	Appropriated for capital projects
OH Pipeline Fund	2,007,145	2,007,145	Delivery of water to OH customers
OH CIP Fund	1,824,218	1,824,218	Appropriated for capital projects
OH Pipeline Well Replacement Fund	970,527	970,527	Well replacement fund
PV Pipeline Fund	424,739	424,739	Delivery of water to PV customers
PV CIP Fund	279,325	279,325	Appropriated for capital projects
PT Pipeline Fund	1,019,340	1,019,340	Delivery of water to PTP customers
PT CIP Fund	677,543	677,543	Appropriated for capital projects
<b>Total District Cash &amp; Investments</b>	<b>46,563,875</b>	<b>46,563,875</b>	

United Water Conservation District  
Pipeline Water Deliveries (Acre-feet)  
FY 2020-21 data thru December 31, 2020

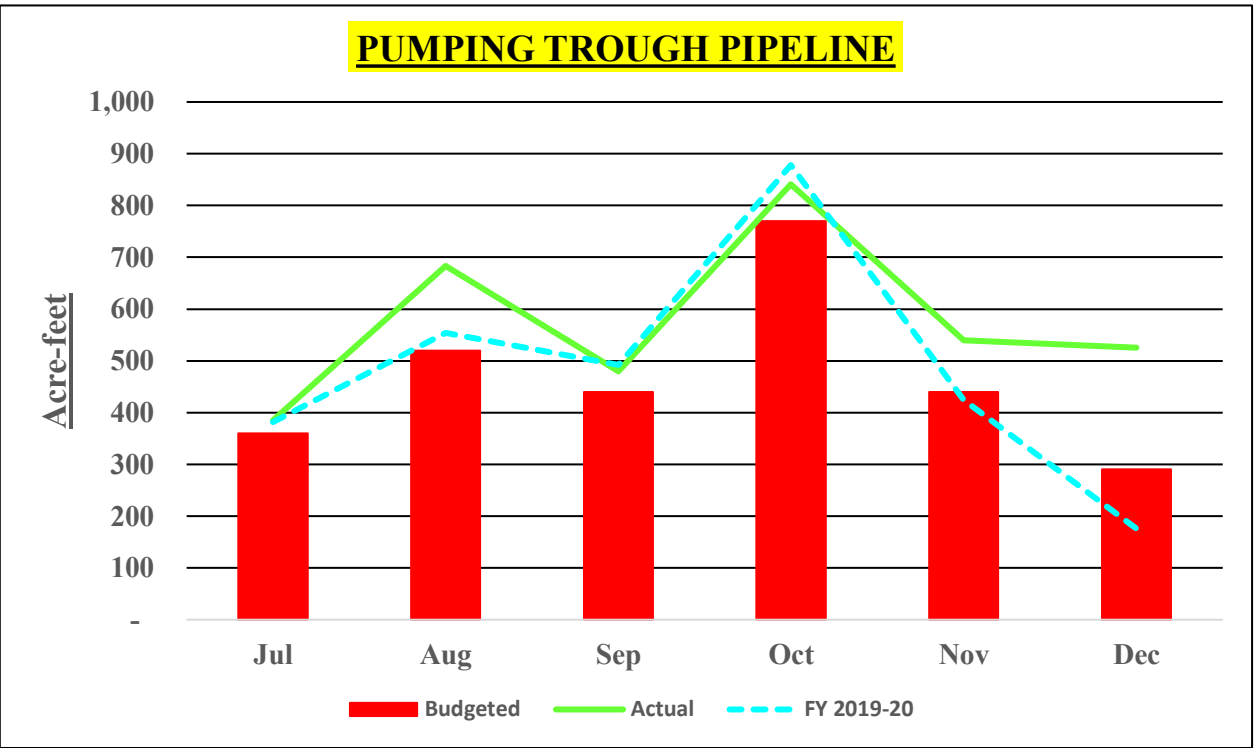
OH Pipeline 20-21			
	Projection	Actual	Difference
Jul	975	1,484	509
Aug	945	1,252	307
Sep	855	1,328	473
Oct	835	1,467	632
Nov	695	1,278	583
Dec	605	1,059	454
Jan	705		
Feb	735		
Mar	785		
Apr	925		
May	1,035		
Jun	895		
Totals	9,990	7,868	
YTD	4,910	7,868	2,958

YTD Actual to Budget: 60.2%

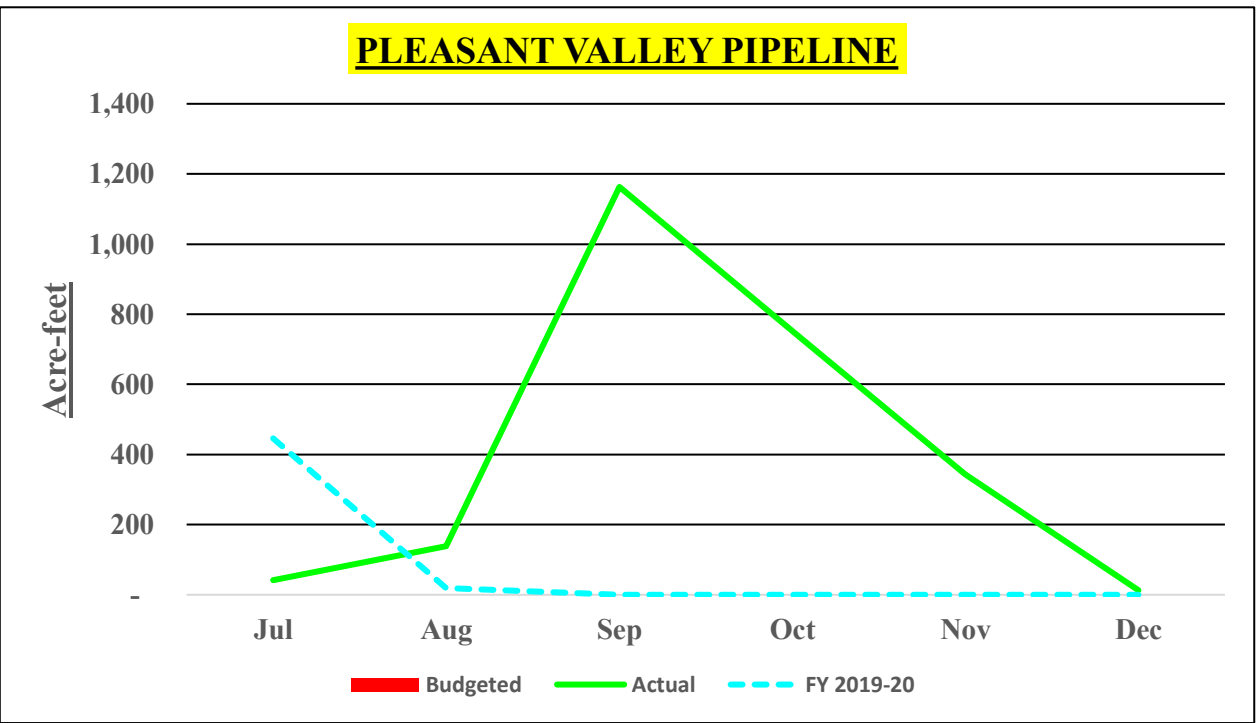


PT Pipeline 2020-21			
	Projection	Actual	Difference
Jul	360	385	25
Aug	520	683	163
Sep	440	480	40
Oct	770	841	71
Nov	440	540	100
Dec	290	525	235
Jan	210		
Feb	250		
Mar	290		
Apr	470		
May	480		
Jun	470		
Totals	4,990	3,454	
YTD	2,820	3,454	634

YTD Actual to Budget: 22.5%



PV Pipeline 2020-21			
	Projection	Actual	Difference
Jul	-	41	41
Aug	-	138	138
Sep	-	1,163	1,163
Oct	-	752	752
Nov	-	344	344
Dec	-	13	13
Jan	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-
May	-	-	-
Jun	-	-	-
Totals	-	2,451	
YTD	-	2,451	2,451





### **Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado Jr., General Manager  
Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager

**From:** Joseph Jereb, Chief Financial Officer

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021 meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 3.D FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Report  
**Information Item**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

Review the FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Report for the period of July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

**Discussion:**

The District normally prepares quarterly financial reports which provide an analysis of District operations at the end of each quarter to highlight variances and for fiscal accountability.

This report represents the first three months of financial information for District operations for FY 2020-21 (or 50 percent of the total fiscal year). Included in this report are budget to actual comparisons to date for District revenues, expenditures and water deliveries, and discussion of any significant variances. This report is based on unaudited financial data and therefore is subject to revisions as staff makes any necessary adjustments that may occur during the year.

While some funds appear to have some savings potential, adjustment recommendations may not be made at this time because the potential savings may be as a result of delays in timing and therefore may not materialize.

Attachments: A – FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Report, Capital Improvement Projects  
B – FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Reports

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

General Manager  
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Legal Counsel  
David D. Boyer

February 2, 2021

Board of Directors  
United Water Conservation District

**Subject: Fiscal Year 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Report**

Dear Board Members:

Enclosed for your review is the District's FY 2020-21 Second Quarter (July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020) Financial Report. This report represents six months of financial information for District operations (50% of the total fiscal year). The report includes budget to actual comparisons for District revenues, expenditures, water deliveries, and a discussion of any significant variances. The financial data is unaudited and therefore subject to revisions.

This report focuses primarily on the operating funds of the District and corresponding Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds:

- General/Water Conservation Fund
  - Recreation & Ranger Activities Sub-fund
- Freeman Fund
- Oxnard/Hueneme Pipeline (OHP) Fund
- Pleasant Valley Pipeline (PVP) Fund
- Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP) Fund
- State Water Import Fund
- Overhead Fund

Staff provides the Board's Finance & Audit Committee with monthly cash position and pipeline delivery activities reports throughout the fiscal year. Quarterly financial reports are submitted to the Board to provide information on the financial status of the District and to assure the Directors and our rate payers that staff is operating within the parameters of the annual adopted budget, including any supplemental appropriations. At the end of each fiscal year, an outside certified public accounting firm performs an independent financial audit to test staff's financial reporting accuracy and internal controls. It is staff's responsibility to ensure that the Board has received adequate financial information throughout the year so that there are no surprises, and so that fiscally prudent decisions can be made when the Board is asked to consider approval of budgeted and unbudgeted expenditure requests.

This report compares the revenues and budget appropriations projected for the entire fiscal year with actual data to provide the Board and our rate payers with a preliminary financial view (subject to audit adjustments). The following discussion will provide a summary of the District's projected revenues and approved spending plan compared to that which actually occurred throughout the year. It also provides an update on approved and funded capital improvement projects.

## **OPERATING FUNDS**

Narrative and graphical analyses are provided by fund (and the Recreation sub-fund) on pages 1 through 11.

## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM STATUS**

A one-page summary of the District's current Five-Year Capital Improvement Program appears on page 12 along with Benchmark Interest Rates on page 13. As of December 31, 2020, all capital improvement project (CIP) expenditures are within the total amount appropriated by the Board.

Most of the CIPs that have been funded are currently underway, in the planning, design or construction stages. An exception is the Santa Felicia Dam Sediment Management project which is on hold due to a backlog of other projects.

- *Well Replacement Program (CIP Project # 8000)* – This is an ongoing CIP for replacement of all the original groundwater wells serving the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline System. The project is funded by the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline Well Replacement Fund. The well replacement project is targeting Well No. 6 in the 2020-21 Fiscal Year. Staff released a request for bids for construction of El Rio Water Well No. 19 replacing Well No. 6 on December 22 (Spec. No. 20-05). The bids are due on January 21, 2021.
- *Freeman Diversion Rehabilitation (CIP Project # 8001)* – This project is funded from the Freeman Diversion Fund (Zone B). NHC has continued its design efforts on the Hardened Ramp. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reviewed and commented on the Hydraulic Basis of Design reports that were submitted last quarter. NHC then prepared and submitted a response to those comments, specifically on the Hydraulic Basis of Design report for the Hardened Ramp. In January 2020 Staff, NMFS, Stantec, and Stillwater Sciences met to discuss the path forward for the Vertical Slot fish passage alternative. A contract was written and executed for Stantec to perform the first two Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) modeling for the Vertical Slot fish passage alternative. NHC has continued its design efforts on the Hardened Ramp. In April, United Staff met with NMFS and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to discuss the design for the hardened ramp. Staff also attended a two-day (April 8-9, 2020) Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) live edit meeting. On May 14, May 21, June 9, and June 23, Staff had teleconferences with NHC, NMFS and CDFW to discuss the Hardened Ramp Design. Last quarter, The District executed a contract with Stantec to perform two Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) models for the Vertical Slot fish passage alternative design. Stantec has continued the CFD modeling. On October 9, Staff met with Stantec, NHC and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to discuss physical modeling. On October 23, Staff, NMFS, CDFW and USBR met to discuss the physical modeling of the hardened ramp and vertical slot. At the November 10, 2021 Board Meeting, the Board members authorized the General Manager to execute an amendment with Stantec in in the amount of

\$120,600 to provide further analysis of the Vertical Slot as a Freeman Diversion Fish Passage Facility alternative. On December 3, 2020, the General Manager executed an agreement with Dr. Larry Weber for consultation services in connection with the project. On December 16, Staff and USBR conducted a meeting to introduce Senior Fish Passage Advisor Dr. Larry Weber who has extensive knowledge of fish passage structures and physical modeling activities. On December 18, staff, USBR, NMFS, CDFW, Dr. Weber, Stantec and NHC had a conference call to discuss USBR's physical modeling plan.

- *Santa Felicia Dam Outlet Works Rehabilitation (CIP Project # 8002)* – This project is funded by the Water Conservation Activities subfund (Zone A). Upon completion of the 10% design phase in April, Staff submitted the electronic copy of the 10% design documents to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) for their review. A Professional Services Agreement (PSA) was executed with GEI Consultants (GEI) in amount of \$1,661,975.00 for the 30% design of the outlet works was approved by the Board at the April 8, 2020 Board Meeting. The 30% design work started on May 4, 2020 and is planned to be completed by October 2021. The 30% design phase also includes development of the 2020 Drilling Program Plan (DPP) and the subsurface exploration field activity. The DPP provides the necessary geotechnical information to support the detailed design phase of the project. Staff worked with GEI Consultants to finalize the DPP and to obtain the applicable permits from DSOD, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and FERC. DSOD and CDFW permits were received on July 24 and July 31, 2020, respectively. FERC's initial approval was received on August 13, 2020 and the written and final approval on October 1, 2020. The DPP field activities started on August 17 and ended on November 14, 2020. The as-drilled survey of the borings and test pits was completed by GEI and Encompass Consultant Group, Inc. (ECG) on November 30. Staff prepared and submitted daily construction reports and boring logs to FERC and DSOD during the field activities. A total of seven (7) new piezometers, including three (3) new Vibrating Wire Piezometers (VWP) at the proposed location for the sloped intake facility, along the proposed location for the tunnel alignment, and four (4) Open Stand-Pipe Piezometers at the west dam abutment and at the proposed location for the Downstream Control Facility were installed. The recordings of the new piezometers were added to the SFD monthly inspection process and will be documented in the SFD monthly inspection reports. Biological monitoring and field observation of the borings was conducted pursuant to the CDFW permit requirements. As of December 31, 2020, 68% of the DPP was completed. GEI is in the process of compiling the laboratory data and finalizing the Geotechnical Data Report (GDR) as part of the 30% design package that will be submitted to FERC, DSOD, and BOC in August 2021. The Board of Consultants (BOC) meeting No. 5 is scheduled for September 14 through 16, 2021. Staff continued the review of the 30% design documents. As of December 31, 2020, the design portion of this project was 19% complete.



The District executed a contract with Encompass Consultant Group (ECG) in amount of \$45,200 to provide the aerial and topographic survey services to support the design of the SFD Safety Improvement project. ECG completed the aerial and topographic survey work and submitted the final survey data to the design team on December 14, 2020.

Staff completed the review of the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) as well as the draft Biological Assessment (BA) both prepared by Catalyst Environmental Solutions (Catalyst). The SFD FERC license amendment application, including the draft EA, and the draft BA were electronically submitted to FERC on May 13 and July 28, respectively. Staff and Catalyst met with FERC on October 14 and October 22 to discuss the draft Biological Assessment report. Staff submitted a follow up response letter in response to FERC's comments on the draft BA and the Section 7 consultation on December 16, 2020. Currently, the draft BA is being revised per FERC comments.

Staff submitted the 401 Water Quality Certification application to the State Water Resources Control Board (WRCB) on November 20, 2020, along with \$1,000 check for the permit processing fees. Staff received a letter from the WRCB on December 21 notifying the District that the 401 Water Quality Certification application is incomplete per the California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 23, section 3856. Additional information is also needed to comply with the new certification procedures established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), which went into effect on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

- *Santa Felicia Dam Probable Maximum Flood Containment (CIP Project #8003)* – This project is funded by the Water Conservation Activities subfund (Zone A). Staff submitted the electronic copy of the 10% design documents as well as the Spillway Condition Assessment final report to FERC and DSOD for their review on April 9, 2020. At the BOC meeting No. 4 held on December 2019, the BOC recommended United to conduct supplemental analyses as part of the 10% design of the Spillway Improvement project. A PSA was executed with GEI in amount of \$1,795,941.00 for the spillway supplemental 10% design phase was approved by the Board at the April 8, 2020 Board meeting. The Supplemental 10% design of the spillway started on May 4 and is expected to be complete by October 2021. This design phase also includes the above noted 2020 DPP and subsurface exploration field activities. As indicated above, the DPP field activities was completed on November 14, 2020. GEI Consultants is in the process of preparing the GDR to be included in the supplemental 10% design package. As of December 31, 2020, the DPP portion of the project is 74% complete. Staff continued the review of the design documents. Staff reviewed the 60% submittal plan for the spillway heel drain cleanout and provided comments to GEI to be incorporated in the next plan submittal.

The supplemental 10% design package is expected to be completed and submitted to FERC, DSOD, and BOC in August 2021 prior to the BOC meeting No. 5. As of December 31, 2020, the design portion of the project is 37% complete.

- *Santa Felicia Dam Sediment Management (CIP Project # 8005)* - The District worked with GEI to develop a potential Sediment Removal Feasibility Study for the Lake Piru Reservoir. A proposal was then submitted by GEI and Water Resources Staff evaluated the proposal to determine if any portion of the study could be performed in house. The District is planning to begin this study following the completion of the 2020 Bathymetric Survey. A PSA was executed with Fugro USA Marine, Inc. on June 11 to complete the Bathymetric Survey. A Notice to Proceed was subsequently issued on June 15 and Fugro mobilized the following day. Fugro USA Marine completed the 2020 Bathymetric survey on September 28, 2020.

On October 20th, 2020 staff met with GEI to finalize the scope of the study and the study is expected to begin by February 2021. Staff received the final proposal from GEI for \$65,000. A dive inspection of the Santa Felicia Dam Intake Tower was completed on December 21, 2020.

- *Lower River Invasive Species Control (CIP Project # 8006)* – The District’s consultant, KASF Consulting, LLC (KASF) completed a pilot study for investigating the treatment efficacy of three chemical disinfectants (chlorine, copper sulfate and potassium permanganate) on quagga mussel veligers in water supplied by the Freeman Diversion and for determining the survivability of quagga mussel adults in 100% groundwater supplied by the PTP system. None of the chemicals tested reached the goal of 100% quagga mussel veliger mortality within 24 hours (a goal intended for pipeline treatment). Additionally, quagga mussel adults were able to survive for long periods of time in both surface and groundwater. Staff submitted comments that included the District’s environmental consultant, Catalyst, to KASF for finalization. Staff is currently considering different alternatives for additional pilot testing that could improve treatment efficacy.

Staff continued to review and submit comments to finalize the chemical treatment pilot study report that was prepared by KASF. In March 2020, Staff and Catalyst completed their review of the Pilot Study. In April 2020, KASF submitted the final draft of the Pilot Study which is currently being reviewed by United Staff. Since then, Engineering has been coordinating with Environmental Services Department for the next phase of chemical treatment pilot testing which includes a veliger mortality study at the Santa Felicia Dam.

On November 2, 2020, District staff met with PVCWD staff at the District’s Saticoy Shop to discuss and implement temporary chemical treatment control measures at the Moss Screen to prevent quagga mussel contamination in downstream infrastructure. On November 18, 2020, District staff met with PVCWD staff to discuss chemical treatment control options (mainly chlorine residual) at the PV Terminal Reservoir. No detections of quagga mussel veligers or adults have been observed in any downstream infrastructure through December 31, 2020.

- *Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline Iron and Manganese Treatment (CIP Project # 8007)* - The work will be incorporated into the final design plans, specifications, and estimates. Kennedy/Jenks (K/J) Consultants and Staff worked together to complete the preliminary review of the 90% Design Documents and addressing comments. Shortly after, Staff and K/J discussed the design of the control system for the proposed Iron and Manganese treatment system. The District received an amendment request letter from Kennedy Jenks related to “out-of-scope design items” and “additional work items” in final design. The General Manager authorized the amendment in the amount of \$173,227, this included a 10% contingency to be authorized by the District on an “as needed” basis. On April 14, Staff issued the Notice to Proceed to Kennedy Jenks. Kennedy Jenks also prepared a potholing plan to explore potential utility conflicts with the Iron and Manganese Treatment Plant design at the El Rio WTP. United Staff decided to not pursue potholing (destructive process) until a contractor is mobilized and ready to start construction. Staff also worked with K/J to determine fire suppression system requirements. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation started work on NEPA compliance and its determination of the applicability of a categorical exclusion. Staff continued to work with Kennedy Jenks on the 100% design and it is on schedule to be completed by July 17. On June 8, Staff provided a formal project progress update letter to the Division of Drinking Water. Staff has been coordinating with Waste Management and other companies on future disposal of iron and manganese solids. Staff has been working on the overall control scheme to prepare for integration of the new treatment into the existing water treatment process. On March 19, Staff sent a letter to the Honorable Assembly member Jacqui Irwin regarding the status of the Iron and Manganese Treatment Project. The letter also included notice of the District’s \$2.5 million grant application as one of six projects submitted by the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County through the Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) Proposition 1 Grant Program to the Department of Water Resources (DWR).

On September 23, 2020, the DWR released the final awards for the Proposition 1 IRWMP Implementation Grant Program for the Los Angeles Region (includes Ventura County). Grant funding in the amount of \$2.5 million was awarded to this project. On September 30, 2020, Staff met with State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to discuss the review comments on the 100% design plans, specifications, estimate and schedule. On October 19, 2020, Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD) provided the subgrant agreement and grant compliance documents for the Prop 1 IRWMP Grant. Calleguas is acting on behalf of the Watershed Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC) and the project proponents which include the District’s share of \$2.5 million in grant funds. On December 8, 2020, Staff prepared a notice to the DDW requesting an amendment to the District’s Domestic Water Supply Permit for the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline system. On December 16, 2020, Staff directed Kennedy/Jenks Consultants to complete the 100% design following review of the District’s comments. Additionally, staff authorized additional work that was identified as part of the 100% design comments. The work will be performed utilizing the existing contract contingency amount.

On December 17, 2020, the CMWD provided a draft scope of work and fee from Kennedy/Jenks Consultants for grant administration services related to the five (5) projects that received grant funding under the Proposition 1 IRWMP Round 1 Implementation Grant for the WCVV. On December 21, 2020, staff confirmed Kennedy/Jenks Consultants responses and provided additional clarifications to the District's 100% design comments. Staff coordinated with the Ventura County Fire Department the review of an application for a fire clearance permit. Staff issued a Notice to Proceed on December 14, 2021 to Kennedy Jenks to spend the contingency budget on design.

- *Quagga Decontamination Station (CIP Project # 8008)* – This project is no longer in the 2020/21 CIP. Currently, the Park Rangers are using a mobile unit to disinfect the visitor boats that have been in the water longer than 96 hours.
- *Juan Fernandez Day Use (CIP Project # 8013)* – This project is no longer in the 2020/21 CIP. The Recreation Management Plan (RMP) assessed the public need to install these additional facilities and is recommending alternative improvements that are less costly and more appropriate. The license amendment application and the RMP were submitted to the FERC on September 20, 2018. In October 2018, United Board of Directors adopted the RMP. Staff is currently in the process of providing the details of the proposed alternatives to FERC.
- *Ferro-Rose Recharge (CIP Project # 8018)* – Last quarter, the District requested Northwest Hydraulic Consultants (NHC) to provide a proposal for the design of the replacement of the 3-barrel culvert and inverted siphon within the Freeman Conveyance system. An agreement was put into place in April 2020 and on July 1, NHC delivered design alternatives for the replacement of the inverted siphon and the 3-barrel culvert. Implementation of the replacements will allow conveyance of up to 750 cfs flow through those portions of the Freeman Conveyance. The design work is expected to be complete in the next fiscal year. The District is deferring construction of partition levees in the Ferro Basin until Wellhead Energy's (WE) application for solar panels installation at the Ferro Basin is approved by the Clean Power Alliance (CPA) or the Southern California Edison. The next opportunity to submit an application to CPA or SCE is in 2021. If selected, WE is planning to complete the installation of the solar field and start operating the system by the end of 2022. The partition levee portion of the project is funded by the Water Conservation Activities subfund (Zone A). NHC continued to advance the design efforts on the three-barrel culvert. In October, NHC delivered the 30% design on the three-barrel culvert. Staff submitted the application for a watercourse permit with the County of Ventura for the three-barrel culvert. Due to the three-barrel culvert bisecting the Santa Clara River levee, the County of Ventura will have to get a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. The watercourse permit is the first step for the County to start the permit process with the Corps.

- *Brackish Water Treatment (CIP Project # 8019)* - Staff continued to provide conceptual design details to Navy staff in order to support their internal discussions and consideration of the project.

On September 24, 2020, Water Resources staff conducted a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting related to the Proposition 1 Planning Grant with the State Water Resources Control Board and groundwater modeling effort. Members from the State Water Resources Control Board, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency and the Navy were present at the TAC meeting.

In October staff prepared updated construction cost estimates for the project. On November 9, 2020, Staff received a Letter of Intent to Support from the commander Navy Installations Command in support of the project.

On December 17, 2020, Engineering and Water Resources staff observed field sampling of coastal well CM1A which is located at Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) Point Mugu. This is the third sampling event that includes an expanded list of constituents in addition to the regularly scheduled list of constituents to help identify treatment requirements. On December 17, 2020, Engineering, Water Resources and Environmental Staff met with Nathan Jacobsen (U.S. Navy) at NBVC Point Mugu to explore potential extraction well locations (13 in total) on Beach Road closer to Mugu Canyon. On December 18, 2020, staff submitted a data request to Navy staff related to the potential extraction well locations along Beach Road that will aid in a more detailed location selection process.

- *Rice Ave Overpass PTP (CIP Project # 8021)* –The Rice Avenue Overpass which is led by the City of Oxnard requires utility relocations along Rice Avenue between Fifth Street and Sturgis Road. Staff provided project updates to the Engineering and Operations Committee meeting on the October 1, including the utility relocation plans for reconstruction and reinforcement of approximately 730-ft of the 30” pipeline on Rice Avenue between Sturgis Road and Eastman Avenue. Staff received the Committee’s comments and discussed the 30-inch transmission relocation alternatives with Kennedy/Jenks Consultants (K/J), the City of Oxnard’s subconsultant on October 5 and 8. KJ agreed with Staff’s request to include additional features in the 65% design plans. Staff was told that the request for encasing the new pipe segment would most likely not be granted as the new Rice Avenue is not considered a CalTrans Facility.

On December 15, Staff received a letter from the City of Oxnard’s attorney stating that the City does not agree to pay for the relocation costs associated with the District’s 30” pipeline.

- *PTP Turnout Metering System (CIP Project # 8022)* – This project proposes to replace 62 meter turnouts on the PTP pipeline. Grant funding that provides 50% matching funds for the meter replacements was approved by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), and a Board resolution to accept the funds was approved by the Board in February 2017. Funding for a 50% portion of the project will be required by the PTP customers. Installation of the first phase of equipment by O&M personnel began in April 2018. On January 9, 2020, the District received the fully executed Amendment Letter A-2 authorizing scope of work and budget modifications to the Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Grant which was prepared by the DWR to reflect changes in the project delivery method (use of in-house Staff versus contractors for construction).

On May 13, 2020, Staff provided an update on the project to the PTP User's group and no questions were received. As of June 30, 2020, a total of twenty (20) meters had been installed comprising 32.3% completion of the project and a total of two (2) utility easement deeds had been recorded and one (1) utility easement deed had been signed by the owner comprising 4.8% completion of easement acquisitions. A total of seventeen (17) letters had been mailed to property owners requesting their signature on utility easement deeds. As it relates to construction, Staff has developed a space-saving alternate for construction of the new facilities that includes elevating solar power and communication equipment on wood utility poles. Additionally, O&M Staff is working with the equipment manufacturer to resolve communication issues with the radio communications equipment.

In November 2020, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute Utility Easement Deeds related to the PTP Metering Project. As of December 9, 2020, a total of 11 easements have been acquired. The District has received comments from two attorneys representing different property owners on some of the language included in the default utility easement deed. Staff is working with the District's legal counsel and Hamner, Jewell & Associates to resolve those requests. prepared progress and financial reports and submitted Invoice No. 8 to the Department of Water Resources (DWR). DWR has been billed \$405,551.39 in grant funds due to date.

- *Pothole Trailhead (CIP Project # 8023)* – Staff were notified last quarter that the Project was not selected to continue in the competitive process for Proposition 68 – Recreational Trails and Greenways Grant Funding. Engineering Staff worked on finalizing the design and permit acquisitions in order to put the parking area improvement part of the project out to bid in October 2020. Construction was scheduled to begin after September 15, 2020 following the conclusion of nesting season and be completed by December 31, 2020, the FERC deadline. The project construction was planned to be implemented in two phases. As part of Phase I, the District completed the installation of the prefabricated restroom building on September 24, 2020. The restroom building was inspected and passed by the Ventura County Division of Building and Safety on September 29, 2020. As part of Phase II, the District released a bid package on October 8 and conducted a pre-bid inspection meeting on October 22, 2020. A total of 6 bids were opened at the October 29 bid opening. J&H Engineering was awarded a contract



in the amount of \$91,000. A notice to proceed was issued and construction began on December 3 and was completed by December 31. During construction, grading, subgrade compaction of the parking area, aggregate installation and perimeter boulders installation were completed.

- *State Water Interconnection Project (CIP Project # 8025)* – United Water is partnering with the City of Ventura (City), Calleguas MWD and Casitas MWD to bring State Water Project water to western Ventura County. The City was served with a petition by California Water Impact Network (CWIN) on September 10, 2019. The Real Parties of Interest named by the petitioner, included United, Casitas and Calleguas and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. United along with other three agencies were dismissed from the petition. Through a competitive process, the City selected Stantec/HDR consulting team to design the SWP Interconnection project. Per the City's recommendation, the City of Ventura (City) approved a contract agreement with Stantec/HDR in the amount of \$3.55M for design development of the SWP Interconnection Pipeline and Blending Station projects on May 18. Staff participated in the SWP Interconnection & Blending Station kick off meeting on July 2, 2020. Both Calleguas, Casitas, City of Ventura, HDR and Stantec and subconsultants Fugro and Bennett Trenchless were in attendance. Based on the draft project schedule presented at the meeting, completion of the final design phase is scheduled for March 9, 2022. Staff responded to HDR's requests for data and information regarding United's existing pipelines and future projects within the project area in August. Casitas will be paying 33 percent of the design and construction fees. United will not pay for the design and construction of the projects but will be able to take delivery of any water to which United is entitled to by law available and can be delivered. On October 7 staff met with HDR and the City of Ventura to conduct a site visit of the project area within United's properties. The City has initiated the discussions on a wheeling agreement with the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) and is working on a joint agency agreement between the City, Calleguas, Casitas and United. Staff received a copy of the draft joint agency agreement from the City of Ventura on September 18, 2020 and provided a second round of comments on the draft agreement in the week of October 26. Staff received an updated draft joint agency agreement for the SWP Interconnection project from the City of Ventura on December 13. Staff reviewed the agreement and provided comments to the City on January 13, 2021.
- *Alternative Supply Assurance Supply Pipeline (CIP Project # 8030)* - Engineering and Water Resources worked together to verify the proposed pipe size and the amount of imported water conveyed using the proposed alignment. The findings of the feasibility study and initial surface water modeling were presented at the Water Sustainability Summit on February 28. Staff revisited the project estimated cost and began evaluating the proposed alignment and identifying required easements. The project is currently on hold.

- *Grand Canal Hydraulic Constraint Removal (CIP Project # 8032)* – Staff provided comments on the draft construction plans which were developed by North Hydraulics Consultants (NHC). On June 26, NHC returned the draft construction plans that incorporated United’s comments. NHC delivered the final plans for the replacement of the pipeline at the entrance of the Grand Canal prior to the release of notice inviting bids. On August 20, five bids were received for the Grand Canal Headworks Replacement project. The Board approved award a construction contract to the lowest responsible bid at the September 9 board meeting. Staff received contract documents from DOD construction and met for a pre-construction meeting on October 14. The construction of the Grand Canal Upgrades is scheduled for April 2021.

Staff has received the new Grand Canal headwork gates manufactured by Waterman Valve LLC on September 28, 2021. On November 23, Staff received delivery of the reinforced concrete boxes from Jensen Precast.

- *Recycled Water (CIP Project # 8043)*- Staff met with Pleasant Valley County Water District (PVCWD) on November 19, 2020 to discuss the potential recycled water interconnection on Laguna Road between the Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP) and PVCWD system. On December 14, 2020, staff met with Ian Prichard (Camrosa Water District or “Camrosa”), Jared Bouchard (Pleasant Valley County Water District or “PVCWD”) and Lucie McGovern (Camarillo Sanitary District or “CSD”). Topics included:
  - Potential distribution and use of excess Conejo Creek surface water diversions of up to 2,500 acre-feet per year.
  - Potential distribution and use of non-utilized Camarillo Water Reclamation Facility recycled water of up to 1,500 acre-feet per year.
  - Additional water storage and pipeline connection opportunities for the PVCWD and the Pumping Trough Pipeline systems.

On December 17, 2020, the City of Oxnard opened bids on the second rebid of the Hueneme Road Recycled Water Pipeline Phase II project.

- *Oxnard Hueneme System Backup Generator (CIP #8036)* - Staff received notification of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program award on October 26 for \$645,050.00 which is equivalent to 75% matching funds for the Oxnard Hueneme System Backup Generator project approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and administered by the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES). Staff had a kickoff meeting with CalOES on December 2 and subsequently executed the grant agreement on December 10. On December 2, Staff issued Task Order No.1 to Lucci & Associates, Inc. (Lucci) for design of project in the amount of \$45,000. On December 10, staff held a kickoff meeting with the Operations staff and Lucci to discuss the scope of work and project schedule. On December 18, staff met with the Operations staff and Lucci at the project site. The design plans are expected to be finalized on January 15 and the notice inviting bids for the construction of the project is expected to be released on January 15, 2021.

## **CASH POSITION AND INVESTMENTS OF THE DISTRICT**

As of December 31, 2020, the District had a total of just over \$ 46.5M in cash and investments. As noted on the cash position report, some of the District's resources are readily available for use while other funds have restrictions that limit how they can be used. The District must adhere to any legal, bond or contractual restrictions placed on funds. However, some restrictions are based on Board designations and can be redirected for other uses if the Board so determines.

The District's cash, cash equivalents and securities held in the various accounts as compared to the prior year are as follows:

	<b>Dec 31, 2020</b>	<b>Dec 31, 2019</b>
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)	\$ 24,268,872	\$ 23,032,877
Union Bank – 2020 COP Project Account	\$ 19,000,001	\$ 0
Union Bank – 2001, 2005, 2009 Account Balances	\$ 163	\$ 837,003
Bank of the Sierra Checking Account	\$ 3,292,394	\$ 5,884,553
County Treasury	\$ 1,444	\$ 392
Petty Cash	\$ 1,000	\$ 400
Total	<u>\$ 46,563,875</u>	<u>\$ 29,755,225</u>

Approximately \$836K was held by Union Bank as trustee in reserve for future debt payments December 31, 2019 for the 2009 COP. This has been rolled into the new 2020 COP and no reserve is required. The only current restriction is the \$19M for CIP projects in the 2020 COP. Any restrictions on the remaining \$ 27.6M are listed in this report.

If you have any questions regarding this report on the financial position, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Jereb, Chief Financial Officer

## FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review

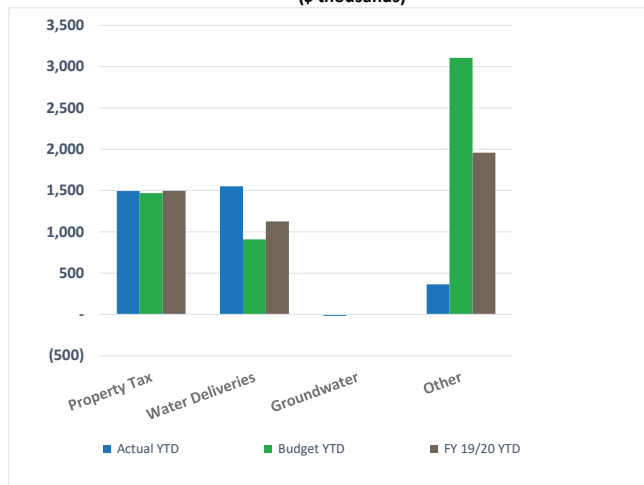
July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

50% of Fiscal Year Completed

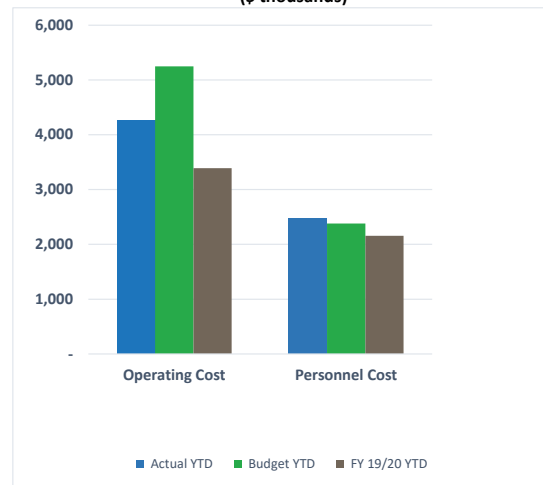
### General/Water Conservation Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
<b>Revenues</b>							
Water Delivery	1,550	909	642	71%	1,125	425	38%
Groundwater	(17)	0	(17)	0%	5	(22)	-442%
Supplemental Water	0	0	0	0%	1,840	(1,840)	0%
Property Taxes	1,493	1,468	25	2%	1,497	(4)	0%
Earnings on Investments	9	52	(44)	-83%	170	(161)	-95%
Other	365	3,107	(2,741)	-88%	1,957	(1,592)	-81%
Transfers in		0	0	0%	0	0	0%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>3,401</b>	<b>5,536</b>	<b>(2,135)</b>	<b>-39%</b>	<b>6,594</b>	<b>(3,194)</b>	<b>-48%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Personnel Costs	2,480	2,382	98	4%	2,157	323	15%
Operating Expenditures	4,269	5,248	(979)	-19%	3,390	879	26%
Capital Outlay	356	330	26	8%	36	320	898%
Debt Service	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Transfers out	499	3,382	(2,883)	-85%	3,264	(2,765)	-85%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>7,604</b>	<b>11,342</b>	<b>(3,738)</b>	<b>-33%</b>	<b>8,846</b>	<b>(1,242)</b>	<b>-14%</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(4,203)</b>	<b>(5,806)</b>	<b>1,603</b>	<b>-28%</b>	<b>(2,252)</b>	<b>(1,952)</b>	<b>87%</b>

**Revenues**  
(\$ thousands)



**Expenses**  
(\$ thousands)



#### Revenue Status vs. Budget

- Revenue received through second quarter \$2.1M (\$39%) below Plan primarily due to a pending Interfund Loan of \$2.9M.
- Earnings on investments were \$44K under plan due to a GAAP market value adjustment to LAIF of \$63K in addition to a steep reduction in the rate of return.
- Groundwater Revenue were \$17K below Plan due to utility billing adjustment to Sespe because of prior years billing errors.
- Decrease in Revenue were slightly offset by increase in pipeline deliveries \$642K above Plan; 6,043 AF more delivered than Plan for three pipelines combined including 2,451 AF more for PV
- Property taxes \$25K above plan due to higher tax revenue received from Ventura County.
- Other Revenue increases included conservative budgeting of hydroplant revenue \$57K and easement revenue \$30K from So Cal Gas.

#### Revenue Status vs. Prior Year

- Q2 Revenue \$3.2 (49%) under PY primarily due to Supplemental Water Revenue of \$1.8M received for Fox Canyon GMA in prior year and Interfund Loan of \$2.9M that will be reflected before the end of the fiscal year.
- Earnings on investment \$161K lower than PY due to GAAP market value adjustment and lower market rates in the current year (2.29% to .63%).
- Decrease in Revenue was slightly offset by increase in Pipeline deliveries \$425K higher than PY; 4,312 AF more delivered in FY 20-21 than in FY 19-20.

## **FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review**

**July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020**

*50% of Fiscal Year Completed*

### **General/Water Conservation Fund - Continued**

#### ***Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Budget***

- Total Expenditures were \$4M (35%) under Plan primarily due to a pending Interfund Loan for \$2.9M. Contributing to the variance is savings in Professional Fees \$867K from the under-utilized Admin and Finance consulting budget and FERC – Fish Passage and quagga expenditures which were significantly less than estimated.
- Maintenance and Supplies were \$200K under budget. O&M and Recreation contributed to the variance due to fewer staff and staff spending less time in the field due to Covid. Timing issues also contributed and are expected to catch up by the end of the fiscal year.
- Overhead costs \$300K, Travel and Training \$83K, and equipment rental \$50K, were under budget due to Covid considerations and delays in invoicing. Staff expects this to catch up toward the fiscal year end.
- Offsetting under-budget was Personnel Costs of \$98K due to an extra pay period in December.

#### ***Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Prior Year***

- Expenditures \$1.3M (15%) lower than PY. Primarily due to a pending Interfund Loan transfer of \$2.9M in current year and CIP Projects Transfers for the new HQ and SFD projects, partially offset by lower personnel costs and Operating and Capital expenditures in PY.
- Professional fees \$435K over PY due higher PMC invoices and earlier legal payments in current year.
- Principal payments were down \$162K due to 2009 bond payments being refunded in November while financing costs were up \$653K due to payoff costs on previous bonds.
- Salary expenses were up \$323K primarily due to the extra payroll in the current fiscal year.
- Insurance premiums increased by \$60K and Maintenance Costs exceeded PY by \$40K.
- Capital outlays were up \$277K due primarily to the Eddy Pump attachment along with new service and recreation patrol trucks.

#### ***Fund Balance***

The Projected ending undesignated working capital balance at the end of FY 20-21 is \$5.5M which is \$1M higher than projected.

The District's reserve policy requires a \$4 - \$5 million minimum undesignated balance.

## FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review

July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

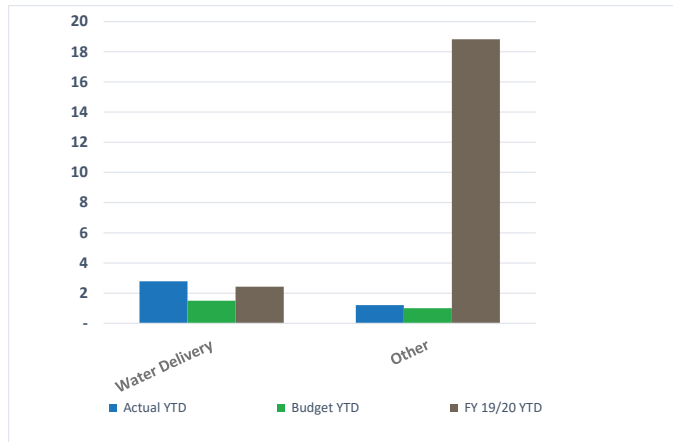
*50% of Fiscal Year Completed*

### Recreation Sub-Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
<b>Revenues</b>							
Water Delivery	3	1	1	86%	2	0	15%
Earnings on Investments	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Other	1	1	0	21%	19	(18)	-94%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>(17)</b>	<b>-81%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Personnel Costs	285	272	12	4%	229	55	24%
Operating Expenditures	390	418	(28)	-7%	231	159	69%
Capital Outlay	68	81	(13)	-16%	5	63	1368%
Debt Service	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Transfers out	405	405	0	0%	332	74	22%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,148</b>	<b>1,177</b>	<b>(29)</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>44%</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(1,144)</b>	<b>(1,174)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>(775)</b>	<b>(369)</b>	<b>48%</b>

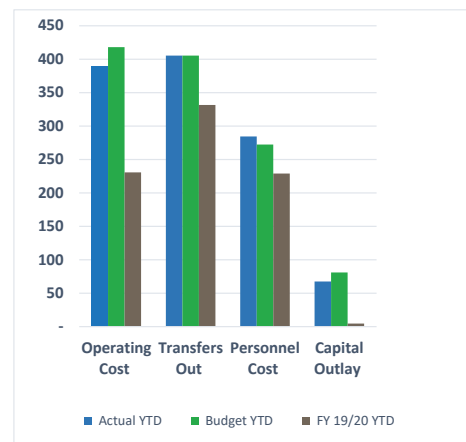
#### Revenues

(\$ thousands)



#### Expenses

(\$ thousands)



#### Revenue Status vs. Budget

- Revenue received through 2nd quarter 60% above Plan due to higher water delivery revenue.

#### Revenue Status vs. Prior Year

- Q2 Revenue \$17K (81%) under PY due to zero filming revenue because of Lake Piru closure and Covid restrictions.

#### Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Budget

- Total expenditures \$1.1M, under budget by \$29K (2%). Savings is in Maintenance and supplies expenses and Capital Expenditures, slightly offset by increase in Professional Fees.
- Professional Fees were \$53K over budget due to increase in PMC invoices. Last PMC invoice will be December 2020. Expected savings for PMC contract will be spent for in-house operations at Lake Piru.
- Maintenance and Supplies budget \$40K under-utilized due to covid impact and fewer staff in O&M.

#### Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Prior Year

- Expenditures \$352K (44%) higher than PY
- Operating Costs is higher in current year due to higher costs of PMC fees \$234K, increase in Personnel Costs \$55K due to additional staffing, and purchase of Rec Truck \$30K.



## FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review

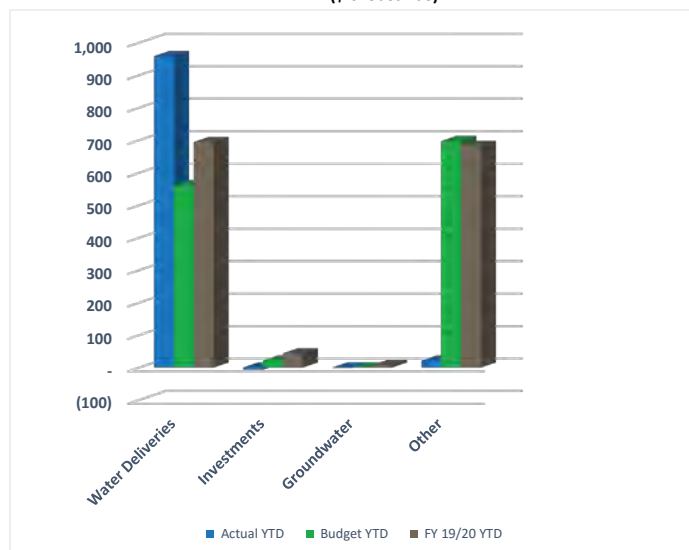
July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

50% of Fiscal Year Completed

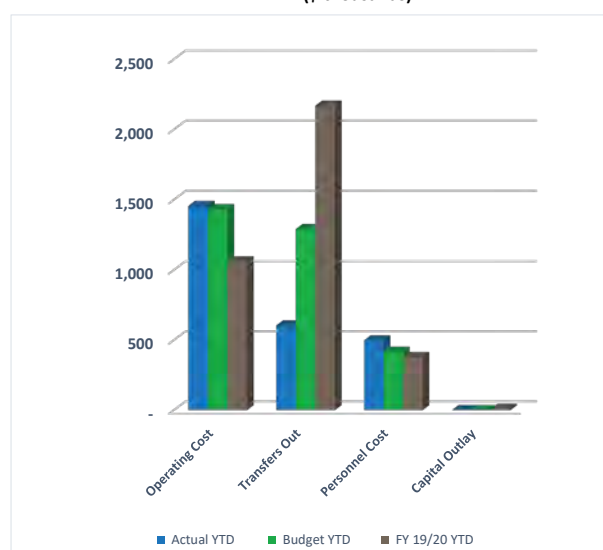
### Freeman Diversion Fund (Zone B)

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
<b>Revenues</b>							
Groundwater	(1)	0	(1)	0%	8	(9)	-116%
Water Delivery	958	562	397	71%	694	264	38%
Earnings on Investments	(7)	22	(29)	-131%	44	(50)	-116%
Other	25	697	(672)	-96%	683	(658)	-96%
Transfers in	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>(306)</b>	<b>-24%</b>	<b>1,428</b>	<b>(453)</b>	<b>-32%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Personnel Costs	498	417	81	19%	379	120	32%
Operating Expenditures	1,457	1,433	23	2%	1,061	396	37%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0%	10	(10)	-100%
Transfers out	605	1,292	(687)	-53%	2,170	(1,565)	-72%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,560</b>	<b>3,142</b>	<b>(582)</b>	<b>-19%</b>	<b>3,619</b>	<b>(1,060)</b>	<b>-29%</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(1,585)</b>	<b>(1,861)</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>(2,191)</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>-28%</b>

**Revenues**  
(\$ thousands)



**Expenses**  
(\$ thousands)



#### Revenue Status vs. Budget

- Revenue received Q2 \$975K, down \$306K (24%)
- Decrease primarily due to a delay in proceeds from financing (\$687K) for Emergency Generator, Recycled Water Replenishment and SCADA Hardware capital improvement projects
- Lower earnings on investments (\$29K) were due to a GAAP market value adjustment to LAIF
- Offsetting this decrease were higher than expected pipeline deliveries (in lieu charges), which were \$397K over Plan
- Total pipeline deliveries were up 6,044 AF (78%) compared to budgeted 7,730 AF

#### Revenue Status vs. Prior Year

- Current year lower by \$453K (32%)
- Decrease from previous fiscal due to a City of Ventura Refund of Judgement (\$663K) received during Fiscal Year 2019-2020
- Offsetting decrease were higher pipeline delivery revenue (\$264K) in Fiscal Year 2020-21
- Pipeline deliveries were up 4,313 AF (46%) compared to Q2'19-20
- Earnings on Investments \$50K lower than PY due to GAAP market value adjustment and lower market rates in the current year



## **FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review**

**July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020**

*50% of Fiscal Year Completed*

### **Freeman Diversion Fund (Zone B) - continued**

#### **Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Budget**

- Total expenditures \$2.6M, \$582K (19%) below Plan
- Primarily due to a decrease in CIP transfers-out (\$687K) for Emergency Generator, Recycled Water Replenishment and SCADA Hardware CIP projects
- Operating expenditure were also lower (\$74K) than Budget. Decrease in operating expenditures are primarily related to maintenance (\$59K), fuel (\$14K) and permits and licenses (\$10K)
- Delay in operating expenditures partially due to Covid-19, however expected to pick up by the end of the fiscal year
- Overhead costs also under budget by \$74K due to timing difference
- Offsetting decrease are on going District legal fees (\$198K) for Wishtoyo, City of Ventura and HCP
- Personnel Costs were also \$81K higher than expected due to five new hires at the District. Two O&M Recharge Workers and four EPCD Field Assistance. In addition to new hires, there were internal employee promotions and an increase in work performed in HCP, Freeman Diversion and Freeman Fishery projects

#### **Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Prior Year**

- Total Expenditures are \$1.1M (29%) below PY
- Decrease largely due to a decrease in transfers-out for CIP projects (\$1.6M)
- Lower transfers-out partially due to a delay in funding and multiple projects being completed last fiscal year
- Offsetting decrease are higher operating expenditures (\$396K) in current fiscal year, which include rental equipment (\$151K) for the Freeman sediment removal project and professional fees (\$211K) primarily for Wishtoyo
- Personnel cost also had an increase of \$120K in current fiscal year, primarily due to an increase in work in O&M and EPCD departments

#### **Fund Balance**

- The beginning working capital was approximately \$808K. Assuming FY 2020-21 activity is consistent with the approved budget, the projected ending balance is a \$548K
- The District's reserve policy requires an undesignated balance of between \$800K and \$1M for this fund, which is not being met
- Additional funding for the Freeman fund will be required in FY 2020-21, either from external and/or interfund lending

## FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review

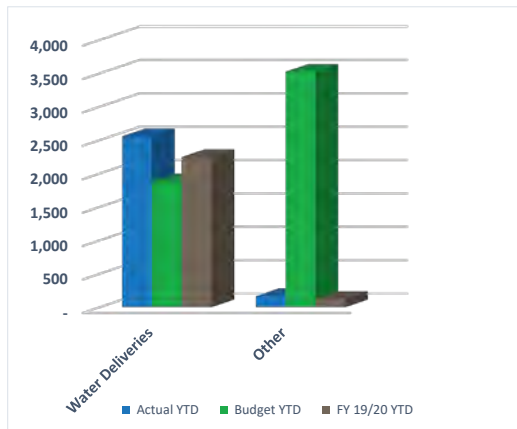
July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

50% of Fiscal Year Completed

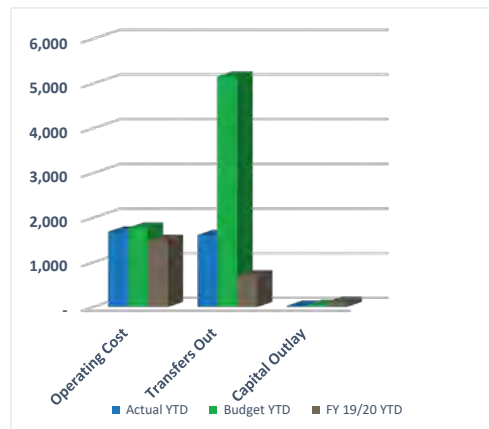
### Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
<b>Revenues</b>							
Water Delivery	2,556	1,883	673	36%	2,244	312	14%
Earnings on Investments	(8)	10	(18)	-179%	27	(35)	-129%
Grants	4	150	(146)	-97%	0	4	0%
Other	173	3,514	(3,341)	-95%	93	79	85%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>5,557</b>	<b>(2,832)</b>	<b>-51%</b>	<b>2,365</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Personnel Costs	504	402	103	26%	463	42	9%
Operating Expenditures	1,179	1,370	(191)	-14%	1,035	144	14%
Capital Outlay	24	48	(24)	-49%	116	(92)	-79%
Transfers out	1,610	5,157	(3,547)	-69%	705	905	128%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,318</b>	<b>6,977</b>	<b>(3,659)</b>	<b>-52%</b>	<b>2,319</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(593)</b>	<b>(1,420)</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>-58%</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>(639)</b>	<b>-1390%</b>

**Revenues**  
(\$ thousands)



**Expenses**  
(\$ thousands)



#### Revenue

- Water Delivery Revenue \$673K (36%) higher than Budget. 2,958 AF (60%) more delivered than Plan. Deliveries exceed prior year by \$312K (1,779 AF). The decrease in variable rates made the dollar revenue increase less than the actual deliveries.
- Grants under Plan by \$146K. Grant for Fe & Mn treatment; revenue will not be earned until construction begins later in FY.
- Fox Canyon revenues up \$55K (54%) over budget and \$80K (106%) over prior year.
- Investment revenue \$18K under budget and down \$35K compared to last year due to a \$19K GAAP market value adjustment to LAIF this year and lower returns compared to last year.
- Total revenue under budget by \$2.8M due to financing receipts of \$3.4M not being realized.

#### Expenses

- Maintenance - S&I under budget by \$72K and Equipment under by \$55K. These are primarily timing issues and staff expects actuals to catch up with budget as year progresses.
- Professional fees \$67K under budget due to timing issues and under-utilized EPA budget \$50K.
- Overhead costs \$59K under budget which is primarily a timing issue.
- Transfers out under budget by \$3.5M due primarily to delayed Fe & Mn treatment project.
- Salary costs \$103K and Fox Canyon costs \$83K over budget. Fox Canyon expenses were in December and budgeted costs in second half of year. Salary costs up due to extra payroll period and additional time spent on OH pipeline.

#### Fund Balance

The projected fund balance at the end of FY 20-21 is \$1.5M which is \$360K higher than projected. \$43K outstanding purchase orders were carried forward in FY 20-21 resulting a net balance that is \$317K higher than projected.

The District's reserve policy requires a \$1.1M undesignated balance for this fund, which is expected to be met. The fund balance over the requirement will be used to reduce the amount of external financing that will be needed to complete the large capital improvement projects in FY 20-21 including the Iron & Manganese treatment facility.

## FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review

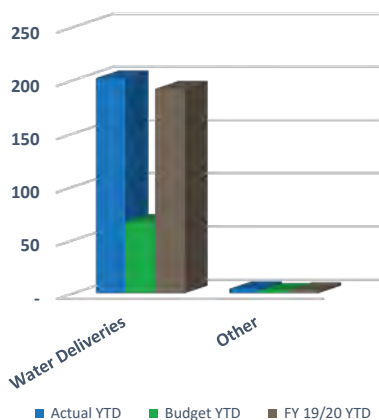
July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

50% of Fiscal Year Completed

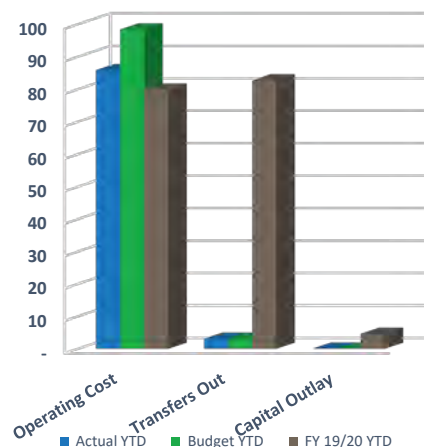
### Pleasant Valley Pipeline Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
<b>Revenues</b>							
Water Delivery	202	67	135	202%	192	10	5%
Earnings on Investments	(1)	2	(3)	-132%	6	(7)	-111%
Other	4	2	2	70%	3	1	35%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>187%</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Personnel Costs	41	24	17	70%	21	20	95%
Operating Expenditures	45	74	(30)	-40%	59	(14)	-24%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0%	5	(5)	-100%
Transfers out	3	3	0	0%	83	(80)	-96%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>(13)</b>	<b>-12%</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>(78)</b>	<b>-47%</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>(30)</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>-486%</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>243%</b>

Revenues (\$ thousands)



Expenses (\$ thousands)



#### Revenue

- Water delivery was \$202K (2,452 AF) higher than Plan. Increase in water deliveries were primarily due to SFD water releases, which provided surface water to the pipeline. Water releases subsided mid-November 2020. Deliveries also exceed prior year by \$10K (1,987 AF). Staff anticipates water delivery revenue to continue to be above Budget in third quarter.

#### Expenses

- Operating expenditures under Budget by \$13K this fiscal year and down \$78K from prior year. As a result of COVID-19 there has been a 15% reduction of O&M staff in field to work on maintenance projects.
- Transfers out last fiscal year are higher by \$80K due to new headquarters.
- Personnel Costs up \$17K over plan due to several factors including an unexpected additional payroll period in Q2, one new O&M Recharge Worker hire and an increase in work performed on PV Pipeline.

#### Fund Balance

- FY 2019-20 ending working capital was approximately \$344K. A shortfall of \$121K is planned for FY 2020-21, resulting in a projected fund balance (net of \$76K of depreciation) of \$298K at year-end.
- The District's reserve policy requires an undesignated balance of \$262K for this fund, which is projected to be met.

## FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review

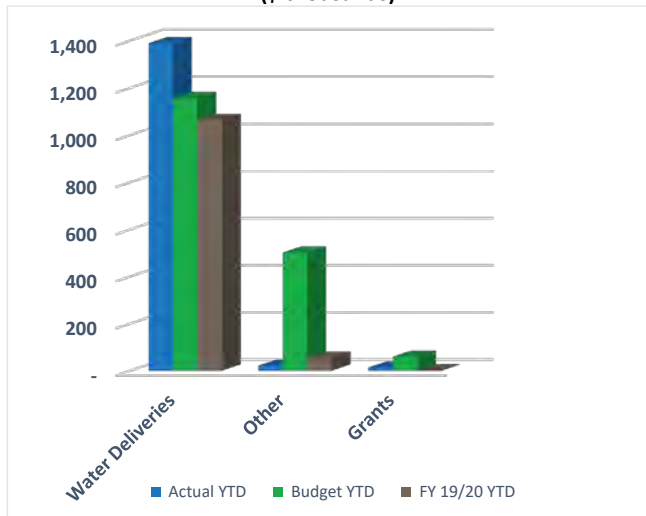
July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

50% of Fiscal Year Completed

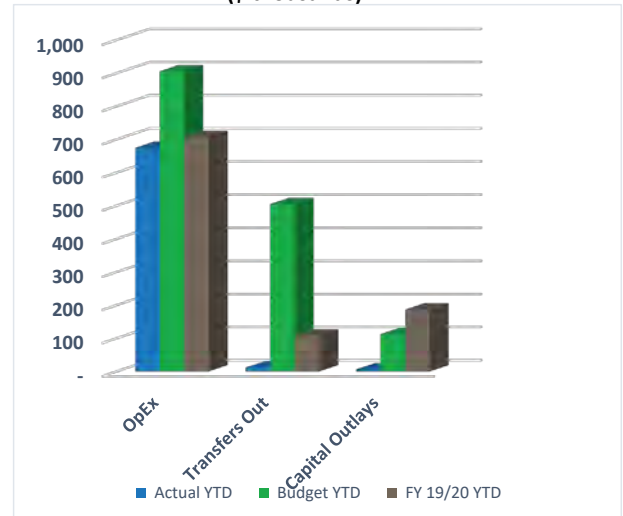
### Pumping Trough Pipeline Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
<b>Revenues</b>							
Water Delivery	1,389	1,156	233	20%	1,063	325	31%
Earnings on Investments	(1)	5	(6)	-113%	13	(14)	-105%
Grants	13	59	(46)	-78%	0	13	0%
Other	22	496	(473)	-96%	41	(18)	-45%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>1,716</b>	<b>(292)</b>	<b>-17%</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Personnel Costs	208	194	15	7%	194	14	7%
Operating Expenditures	466	711	(245)	-35%	512	(47)	-9%
Capital Outlay	6	112	(107)	-95%	186	(181)	-97%
Transfers out	11	504	(493)	-98%	108	(97)	-90%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>1,522</b>	<b>(831)</b>	<b>-55%</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>(310)</b>	<b>-31%</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>278%</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>532%</b>

**Revenues**  
(\$ thousands)



**Expenses**  
(\$ thousands)



#### Revenue

- Revenue received through Q2 \$1.4M, down \$292K (17%) from Plan
- Revenue reduction primarily due to a delay in proceeds from financing (\$434K) for PTP Metering, Replace El Rio Trailer, Management CMMS and SCADA Hardware capital improvement projects
- Fox Canyon GMA charges were also \$40K lower than expected due to more surface water being delivered than pumped water
- Grant revenue for the PTP Metering project has only been partially received, which lessens the amount of revenue received through the second quarter
- Compensating for revenue decrease are higher than expected pipeline deliveries (22%). 2,820 AF pipeline deliveries were expected to be delivered in the first half of FY 2020-21, but 3,454 AF were made. This resulted in \$239K additional revenue



## **FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review**

**July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020**

*50% of Fiscal Year Completed*

### **Pumping Trough Pipeline Fund (Continued)**

#### **Revenue Status vs. Prior Year**

- Current fiscal year revenues up \$306K (27%) compared to last fiscal year
- Primarily due to an increase of 547 AF (19%) pipeline deliveries (\$325K) versus prior fiscal year
- Grant revenue in current fiscal year was also higher by \$13K compared to last fiscal year
- Slightly offsetting increase was lower Fox Canyon GMA revenue (\$18K) and earnings on investments (\$14K) due to lower market rates in the current year

#### **Expenses**

- Total expenditures \$691K, \$831K (55%) below Plan
- Primarily due to lower than planned transfers-out (\$493K) to capital improvement projects
- Operating expenditures (\$245K) and capital outlay (\$107K) were also under Budget
- Maintenance \$92K below Plan this year due to delays caused by Covid-19, as well as less than projected maintenance on corroding PTP turnouts
- Electricity \$83K under Budget due to considerable surface water deliveries (2,806 AF) through the second quarter, which resulted in less time running PTP wells
- General and administrative expense were also \$44K lower than Budget due to timing difference
- Operating expenditures and capital outlay are expected to pick up later in the fiscal year
- Slightly offsetting decrease are higher than expected personnel cost (\$15K). Personnel increase due to a rise in remote training for Covid-19 and a unanticipated payroll in December 2020

#### **Expense Status vs. Prior Year**

- Compared to last fiscal year, expenditures are lower by \$310K (31%)
- Primarily due to capital outlay being \$181K lower in current fiscal year. However, capital outlay expenses are expected to pick up later in the fiscal year. Mainly for equipment needed for the PTP Replacement Isolation Valve project
- CIP transfers-out (\$97K) are also lower in current fiscal year due to a delay in funding for PTP Metering, SCADA Hardware, Replace El Rio Trailer and Management CMMS System project

#### **Fund Balance**

- The beginning working capital was approximately \$465K. Assuming FY 2020-21 activity is consistent with the approved budget, the projected ending balance is \$370K. The District's reserve policy requires an undesignated balance of between \$250K and \$300K for this fund, which is expected to be exceeded given the additional delivery revenue in H1'20-21.





## FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review

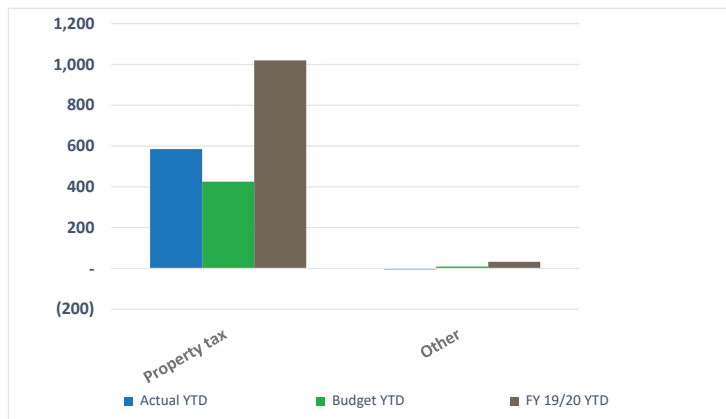
July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

50% of Fiscal Year Completed

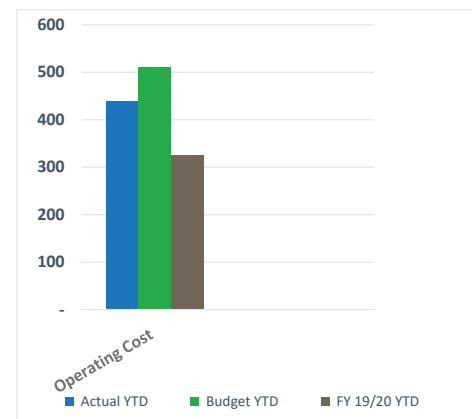
### State Water Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
<b>Revenues</b>							
Water Delivery	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Earnings on Investments	(4)	9	(14)	-146%	28	(32)	-115%
Other	585	425	159	37%	1,024	(440)	-43%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>1,052</b>	<b>(472)</b>	<b>-45%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Operating Expenditures	440	510	(70)	-14%	325	115	35%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Debt Service	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Transfers out	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>(70)</b>	<b>-14%</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>(76)</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>-285%</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>(587)</b>	<b>-81%</b>

**Revenues**  
(\$ thousands)



**Expenses**  
(\$ thousands)



#### Revenue

- Property tax revenues \$159K (37%) over budget primarily due to passthrough and residual taxes not being budgeted. Revenue requested of State Water \$435K (43%) lower than previous year so as not to exceed reserve maximum.
- Investment earnings through Q2 was on budget less a GAAP market value adjustment to LAIF of \$15K. Excluding the GAAP adjustment, there was a \$17K (60%) decrease compared to last year due to much lower percentage returns.

#### Expenditures

- Total expenditures \$70K (14%) lower than budgeted. This is primarily due to variable costs not being consistent throughout the year although the budget is distributed equally. Additionally, variable charges by DWR vary from one year to the next and are difficult to budget accurately.
- Compared to last year, expenditures higher by \$115K (35%). This is due to higher transportation costs in current fiscal year (\$109K).

#### Fund Balance

The projected fund balance at the end of FY 20-21 is approximately \$2.2M.

The District's reserve policy requires a \$1.7M balance for this fund, which will be exceeded. The entire fund balance is designated for the fixed and variable costs related to the District's State Water Project allocation of 5,000 AF per year, plus the allowable balance of Table A water that was not purchased in prior years (1,500 AF for FY 20-21).



## FY 2020-21 Second Quarter Financial Review

July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

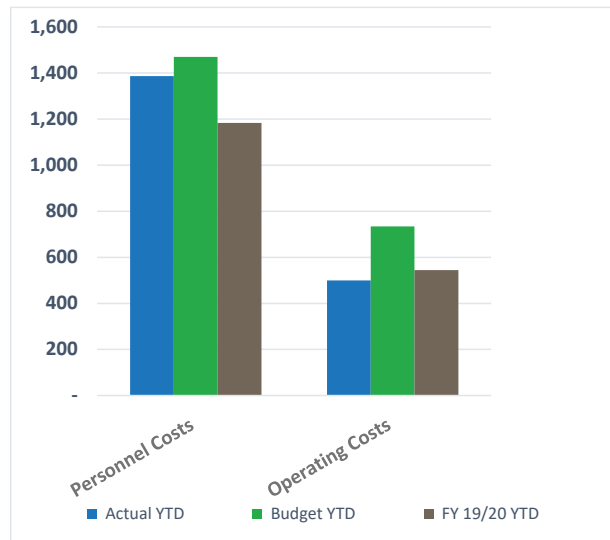
50% of Fiscal Year Completed

### Overhead Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
<b>Expenses</b>							
Personnel Costs	1,387	1,470	(84)	-6%	1,183	203	17%
Operating Expenditures	499	734	(235)	-32%	544	(44)	-8%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0%	13	(13)	0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,886</b>	<b>2,205</b>	<b>(318)</b>	<b>-14%</b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>8%</b>

### Expenses

(\$ thousands)



#### Expenses

- Expenditures under budget by \$318K (14%).
- The largest savings were in Personnel due to the vacant Assistant General Manager position \$84K, and Consulting services for Admin and Finance savings (\$235K). Costs for Admin consulting under-utilized and financial advisory services also under-utilized, as some of the FA costs was included in debt issuance.
- Compared to last year, expenditures are higher by \$146K (8%). The variance is primarily due to Personnel costs up by \$203K because of additional staffing in Admin and Finance. Admin filled two Administrative positions and Finance filled Senior Accountant and Accountant I positions. This increase was slightly offset by decrease in Professional fees (\$41K).



**Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021 meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 3.E Standing Committee Assignments and Appointments of Board  
Representation to Outside Agencies  
**Motion**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

The President will appoint membership for the District's 2021 standing committees and appoint representatives and alternates to the following organizations: Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Board of Directors; Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County Water Issues Committee; Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency; Ventura County Special Districts Association; Oxnard Chamber Water Committee; and ACWA JPIA Board of Directors.

Attachment A – UWCD 2021 Standing Committee Assignments and Appointments of Board  
Representatives to Outside Agencies



## **2021 ROSTER OF COMMITTEES**

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** [GM] Overall responsibility  
for Governance Issues and HR/Personnel policies

President: Michael W. Mobley

Vice President: Bruce E. Dandy

Sec./Treasurer: Sheldon G. Berger

Meets as appropriate

### **ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:**

[AGM, Chief Engineer, Operations & Maintenance  
Manager] Projects, Operations, Permits, Planning, Equipment, Dam  
Safety, Facilities

Chair: 1 Lynn E. Maulhardt

2 Edwin T. McFadden III

3 Daniel C. Naumann

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month

### **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE:**

[AGM, CFO] Budgets, Rates, Audit, Appropriations, and Grant  
Administration; HR/ Risk Management and IT

Chair: 1 Sheldon G. Berger

2 Bruce E. Dandy

3 Lynn E. Maulhardt

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month

### **LEGISLATIVE & OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

[GM/CoB] Legislative Policy, Bond/Grant Development, Media  
Relations, Stakeholder Engagement

Chair: 1 Bruce E. Dandy

2 Mohammed A. Hasan

3 Sheldon G. Berger

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each new Quarter

### **RECREATION COMMITTEE** [Chief Park Ranger]

Lake Piru Recreation Area, Park Ranger Staff, Concessionaire

Chair: 1 Sheldon G. Berger

2 Mohammad A. Hasan

3 Edwin T. McFadden III

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the Month

### **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE:** [Chief

Engineer] Groundwater, Surface Water, Water Quality and Modeling,  
Overdraft, Seawater Intrusion, Replenishment, FCGMA, GSAs

Chair: 1 Edwin T. McFadden III

2 Daniel C. Naumann

3 Lynn E. Maulhardt

Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the Month

### **UWCD REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **ACWA JPIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Bruce E. Dandy

Alternate: Mauricio E. Guardado Jr

#### **COALITION OF LABOR, AGRICULTURE AND BUSINESS OF VENTURA COUNTY (CoLAB)**

Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Anthony Emmert

Dan Detmer

#### **FILLMORE AND PIRU BASINS GSA**

Edwin T. McFadden III

#### **FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Michael W. Mobley

Alternate: Daniel C. Naumann

#### **MOUND BASIN GSA**

Michael W. Mobley

Alternate: Mohammed A. Hasan

#### **OXNARD CHAMBER WATER COMMITTEE**

Bruce E. Dandy

Alternate: Daniel C. Naumann

#### **VENTURA COUNTY AWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sheldon G. Berger

Alternate: Daniel C. Naumann

#### **VENTURA COUNTY AWA WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE**

Mohammed A. Hasan

Alternate: Bruce E. Dandy

#### **VENTURA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION**

Bruce E. Dandy

Alternate: Daniel C. Naumann

#### **VENTURA WATER COMMISSION**

Michael W. Mobley

Alternate: Mohammed A. Hasan



**Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

**Date:** February 2, 2021 (February 10, 2021 Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 3.F **Resolution 2021-04** Requesting the Amendment of the District's List of Authorized Signers and Updating the District's Mailing Address on the District's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) account with the California State Treasurer's Office.  
**Motion**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will consider approving Resolution 2021-04 requesting the amendment of the District's list of authorized signers and updating the District's mailing address on the District's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) account with the California State Treasurer's Office.

**Background:**

In an effort to update the District's physical mailing address with the California State Treasurer's Office for its Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) account, the District was made aware that the current list of authorized signers as well as the mailing address for the District is out of date. When staff requested the update to both authorized signers and mailing address, they were informed that a resolution from the UWCD Board of Directors would be required to update that information.

**Fiscal Impact:** none

**Attachment:** A. **Resolution 2021-04**  
B. Form STO-LAIF-4007 Request for Agency Address Change

**RESOLUTION 2021-04**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF UNITED WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT REQUESTING THE AMENDMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT'S LIST OF AUTHORIZED SIGNERS AND UPDATING THE  
DISTRICT'S MAILING ADDRESS ON THE DISTRICT'S LOCAL AGENCY  
INVESTMENT FUND (LAIF) ACCOUNT WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE  
TREASURER'S OFFICE.**

**WHEREAS**, the United Water Conservation District held a Regular Board of Directors meeting on February 10, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to this meeting date, the District's Executive Board members were elected to a new one-year term; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Water Conservation District desires to update the authorized signatures and mailing address for its Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) account with the California State Treasurer's Office;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District request the updating of authorized signatures and mailing address for its account with California State Treasurer's Office – Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF).

Michael W. Mobley, President; Bruce E. Dandy, Vice President; Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer; Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager; and Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager, are hereby authorized to sign on behalf of the District any and all documents that may be required by the California State Treasurer's Office – Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF).

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED, this 10<sup>th</sup> of February, 2021**

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael W. Mobley, Board President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheldon G. Berger, Board Secretary/Treasurer





California State Treasurer's Office  
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)

Request for Agency Address Change

Date: February 10, 202

LAIF Account #: 90-56-001

Agency Name: United Water Conservation District

Attention (title only): General Manager

New Address: 1701 N. Lombard Street, Suite 200, Oxnard CA

Telephone: 805 525 4431 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Two authorized signatures required.** Each of the undersigned certifies that he/she is authorized to execute this form under the agency's resolution, and that the information contained herein is true and correct.

Signature  
Michael W. Mobley  
Print Name  
Board President  
Title  
805 525 4431  
Telephone

Signature  
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.  
Print Name  
General Manager  
Title  
805 525 4431  
Telephone

Please provide email address to receive LAIF email notifications.

Name	Email
<u>Michael W. Mobley</u>	<u>MichaelM@unitedwater.org</u>
<u>Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.</u>	<u>mauricioq@unitedwater.org</u>

Please email a scanned copy for review to [laif@treasurer.ca.gov](mailto:laif@treasurer.ca.gov).  
After approval is received, mail the original form to: State Treasurer's Office  
Local Agency Investment Fund  
P.O. Box 942809  
Sacramento, CA 94209-0001



### **Staff Report**

**To:** Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer

**Date:** January 26, 2021 (February 10, 2021 Board Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** **4.1 El Rio Water Well No. 19 Construction Project Contract Award to Best Drilling and Pump, Inc.**  
**Motion**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will consider awarding a contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Best Drilling and Pump, Inc., in the amount of \$450,774.00, and authorizing the General Manager to execute the contract with Best Drilling and Pump, Inc. for the construction of El Rio Water Well No. 19.

#### **Discussion:**

This purpose of this project is to replace El Rio Well No. 6 with a new El Rio Well No. 19 as part of a multi-year effort to replace all the original El Rio Wells, constructed in the mid-1950s. This project would mark the sixth well replacement under the program, leaving only one of the original wells remaining. Three bids were received on January 21, 2021. The lowest responsible bid was provided by Best Drilling and Pump, Inc. A summary of the bid results is listed below.

Best Drilling and Pump, Inc.	\$450,774.00
Nor-Cal Pump & Well Drilling, Inc.	\$579,764.00
Zim Industries, Inc.	\$604,874.00

Best Drilling and Pump, Inc. is well qualified to perform the work and has successfully completed several projects for the District.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

The Well Replacement Program is included in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget (CIP Project Account 452-400-81060-8000) has \$1,500,000 available. No additional funding is requested.

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**Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager  
Brian Collins, Chief Operations Officer

**From:** John Carman, Programs Supervisor

**Date:** January 29, 2021 (February 10, 2021 Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** **5.1 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report**  
**Information Item**

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**Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Operations and Maintenance Department regarding its activities for the month of January as well as receive the presentation to the Board supporting this report.

1. Water Releases, Diversions and Deliveries

- Lake Piru rose 0.3 feet in January to 15,184 acre-feet (AF) of storage.
- 2703 AF of water was diverted by the Freeman Diversion facility in January.
- 96 AF of water was diverted to the Saticoy recharge basins in January.
- 1903 AF of surface water was delivered to the El Rio recharge basins in January.
- 390 AF of surface water was delivered to the PTP system in January.
- 0 AF of surface water was delivered to Pleasant Valley County Water District in January.

2. Major Facilities Update

- **Santa Felicia Dam**
    - Lake Piru rose 0.3 feet January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2021, to 15,184 AF of storage.
    - On February 1, 2021 the lake level was 76.8 feet below the spillway lip.
    - On January 1, 2021, the cumulative rainfall measured at rain station 160 was 3.09 inches which does not exceed the 8.1 inch trigger; habitat water releases from Santa Felicia Dam (SFD) were maintained at 7.5 cubic feet per second (cfs), for the month of January, as per the Water Release and Ramping Rate Implementation Plan for lower Piru Creek.
  - **Freeman Diversion, Saticoy, and El Rio Recharge Facilities**
    - Flows at the Freeman Diversion averaged 51 cfs for the month of January, with 45 cfs of surface water being diverted on January 1, 2021.
-

**Agenda Item: 5.1 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report –  
Information Item**

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- During the month of January, 96 AF of surface water deliveries were made to the Saticoy Recharge Facility.
- During the month of January, 1903 AF of surface water deliveries were made to the El Rio Recharge Facility.
- January 29, 2021 Hach technician repaired Solitax Suspended Solids Probe at Freeman Diversion.
- Staff removed large volume of leaves at Freeman traveling screens the result of Ventura County wind event.
- Static water levels (distance of water from the well pad to the water table):

	2021	2020	2019
Saticoy	120.2'	105.4'	150.2'
El Rio	116.4'	106.14'	145.12'
PTP	102' - 140'	113' - 153'	98' - 132'

- **Noble/Rose/Ferro Basins**
    - 0 AF of surface water was delivered to the Noble & Rose basins during January.
  - **Oxnard-Hueneme (OH) Delivery System**
    - Staff excavated trench and installed drain line for relocation of Disinfection Facility post residual analyzer.
    - El Rio staff fabricated and installed bracket for new peristaltic ammonia pump.
    - Replaced gauges for El Rio Booster Plant air supply line.
  - **Pleasant Valley County Water District (PVCWD)**
    - During the month of January PVCWD received 0 AF of surface water from United and PVCWD continued to receive surface water from the Conejo Creek Project and also received some highly treated recycled water from the City of Oxnard's Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF).
    - On February 2, 2021 staff installed newly rebuilt PV meter.
  - **Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP)**
    - During the month of January, the majority of the PTP system demand was met with surface water deliveries from the Freeman Diversion facility and was supplemented with PTP wells, as needed during peak demands.
    - Staff installed protection bollards around a pipeline blow-off by Highway 101.
    - Staff shipped the spare PTP vertical up flow meter to the manufacturer to be rebuilt, flow tested and calibrated.
    - New speed control components were installed on PTP Reservoir Cla-Valve
  - **Instrumentation**
-

**Agenda Item: 5.1 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report –  
Information Item**

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- Instrumentation staff and contractor Diener Electric are finalizing the Piru Wi-Fi network installation.
- January 29, 2021 Contractor R&B Automation repaired Desilt Basin west gate valve actuator.
- Instrumentation staff assisted Southern California Edison (SCE) with data logger device installations to document OH VFD Pump rehabilitation savings toward potential incentive rebate funding.
- Staff installed, aligned, and configured Firetide radios at PTP Well sites and Reservoir.

- **Lake Piru Water System**

- All chlorine residuals and turbidity readings for the drinking water system were within proper ranges for the month of January.
- Monthly pH, turbidity and coliform samples were obtained for Lake Piru, as part of the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule compliance monitoring.
- NaOCL injector quill serviced.
- Treatment Plant pump barge domestic side hose replaced.
- Staff replaced Grundfos NaOCL pump.
- Contractor Quality Ag repaired leaking 6” waterline on January 7, 2021.

**3. Operations and Maintenance Projects Update**

- El Rio Facility FEMA OES grant funded Wellfield emergency generator construction bid opening scheduled February 22, 2021

**4. Other Operations and Maintenance Activities**

- The Santa Felicia Dam Emergency Action Plan sirens located in Piru were exercised on February 5, 2021
- On January 20, 2021 staff attended the Santa Paula Chamber of Commerce board meeting remotely.
- SFD Juan Fernandez swim beach, access road shoulders, overflow area, and lower marina parking lot graded.
- High winds triggered Edison PSPS outages at Santa Felicia Dam and Freeman Facilities.
- The monthly inspection of Santa Felicia Dam was performed.
- Monthly bacteria samples were obtained for the PTP system.
- Freeman storage garage siding and fascia repairs were performed.
- Monthly meter readings were obtained for the OH, PTP, and PV Pipelines.
- Completed and electronically transmitted the monthly OH Pipeline report to the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water.
- Static water levels were obtained for all El Rio, Saticoy, and PTP wells.
- Weed abatement continued throughout the District.
- Action priority update biweekly meetings for operations staff were continued.

**Agenda Item: 5.1 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report –  
Information Item**

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**5. Safety and Training**

- During the month of January approximately 3,100 hours of work, within the O & M department, were performed with no reportable accidents. The YTD safety record is 0 recordable injury. As of January 2021, all O&M staff (including new team members) are 100% Adult CPR/First Aid certified.
- Two separate safety meetings were conducted on January 27 & 28, utilizing the Microsoft Teams application, to maintain social distancing practices and to accommodate the separately scheduled teams. One video was provided to staff entitled *Heavy Metal Learning: How to do an Excavator Pre-Operation Inspection // Ep. 120*. An AWWA safety handout entitled “Trenching: Don’t Dig into Trouble” was also briefed to staff. The primary objective was to provide awareness and share best practices on safely excavating and working in an open trench with staff. Staff fulfilled Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) compliance requirements by reviewing the “Trenching and Excavation Policy”; general review.
- Tailgate safety meetings were conducted at all individual O&M field locations and the topics included refresher training on equipment used at the various O&M locations. The online Target Safety assignment for January was “Water Industry: Excavation.”

Attachments: A - Operations Log for January

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DATE	SANTA FELICIA DAM								FREEMAN DIVERSION**					RECHARGE				IRRIGATION						O-H		
	SFD El.	Stor.	Surface	Evap.	Inflow Balance	Outflow USGS	Hydro	Rain 106E	River	Diverted	Fish Facility	Bypass Channel	Crest	El Rio	Salicoy Facility		Noble/Rose	Ptru	T.I.D.	P.T.P.	PVCWD		L.P.	Salicoy Wells	Total	CI2
	Ft.	A/F	Acres	Inches	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Kw	Inches	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	Misc CFS†	Weir CFS	Av. CFS	Av. CFS	A/F	A/F	A/F	%	A/F	A/F	A/F	Lbs.
A/F*		15043			2,132	11,695		1.73	9,376	9,211	6	159		5,155	1388		0	0.0	2,668	1,723	1,004		0.0	0	3,862	30,469
1/1/21	977.94	15053	487.50	0.112	14	7.55	0	0.00	45	45	0	0	0	42.44	3	0	0	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	20.9	169
1/2/21	977.93	15048	487.40	0.095	6	7.56	0	0.00	44	44	0	0	0	35.48	5	0	0	0.0	7.3	7.9	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	25.0	198
1/3/21	977.94	15053	487.50	0.068	11	7.55	0	0.00	45	45	0	0	0	36.71	7	0	0	0.0	2.9	3.4	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	23.1	185
1/4/21	977.95	15057	487.50	0.035	10	7.55	0	0.00	45	45	0	0	0	34.34	7	0	0	0.0	7.8	9.1	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	29.0	233
1/5/21	977.96	15062	487.60	0.045	11	7.59	0	0.00	46	46	0	0	0	33.22	7	0	0	0.0	11.0	12.8	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	26.7	217
1/6/21	977.97	15067	487.70	0.064	11	7.55	0	0.00	46	46	0	0	0	34.64	6	0	0	0.0	10.8	12.2	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	29.1	220
1/7/21	977.97	15067	487.70	0.092	8	7.54	0	0.00	46	46	0	0	0	35.47	6	0	0	0.0	9.4	11.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	27.1	213
1/8/21	977.97	15067	487.70	0.106	9	7.53	0	0.00	46	46	0	0	0	33.07	6	0	0	0.0	13.4	15.8	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	31.3	243
1/9/21	977.98	15072	487.70	0.130	11	7.53	0	0.00	45	45	0	0	0	33.09	5	0	0	0.0	12.4	14.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	29.8	244
1/10/21	977.95	15057	487.50	0.108	1	7.54	0	0.00	44	44	0	0	0	37.75	5	0	0	0.0	1.9	2.8	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	26.8	216
1/11/21	977.95	15057	487.50	0.100	9	7.59	0	0.00	43	43	0	0	0	30.71	4	0	0	0.0	15.7	17.4	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	33.1	266
1/12/21	977.94	15053	487.50	0.110	7	7.6	0	0.00	39	39	0	0	0	25.26	5	0	0	0.0	16.4	18.1	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	31.0	252
1/13/21	977.90	15033	487.20	0.075	-2	7.56	0	0.00	37	37	0	0	0	22.88	6	0	0	0.0	14.9	15.6	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	34.1	256
1/14/21	977.91	15038	487.20	0.077	11	7.51	0	0.00	50	35	14.5	0	0	26.74	0	0	0	0.0	17.0	18.1	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	34.6	304
1/15/21	977.92	15043	487.30	0.154	12	7.5	0	0.00	32	32	0	0	0	21.71	-3	0	0	0.0	25.3	26.5	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	38.0	313
1/16/21	977.92	15043	487.30	0.142	9	7.58	0	0.00																		





### **Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Clayton W. Strahan, Chief Park Ranger

**Date:** January 24, 2021 (February 10, 2021 Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 5.2 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report  
**Information item**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will receive this staff report and a presentation from the Park and Recreation Department staff regarding its activities for the month of January.

#### **Discussion:**

Traditionally, January is seen as the opportunity to start the year on a fresh note, make improvements, and prepare the Recreation Area for the coming summer season. As the Board is aware, the Lake Piru Recreation Area has been operated by a concessionaire for the past 12 years. As of January 1, 2021, the District began directly managing operations at the Lake. As a result, staff stayed extremely busy adapting to an expanded and diverse workload. The regular maintenance challenges continued, and staff also had to be present to operate the entry kiosk, complete administrative tasks related to receiving and processing payments for park use, coordinate contracts for supplies and utility services, and plan for future operations at the lake. Recreation staff were assisted in this process by others from throughout the District, including the Operations and Maintenance, Engineering, Administrative Services, Finance, and Environmental Services Departments. As noted below, this effort is already proving to be a successful and beneficial decision.

Operations at the Recreation Area were somewhat hampered by the ongoing regional stay-at-home order associated with COVID-19, as the District is still unable to accept campers at the facility. This restriction significantly limits the revenue generating ability of the facility. Despite this obstacle, preliminary indicators of staff's efforts are proving to be overwhelmingly positive. Finalized figures were not available at the time of the filing of this report, but a partial analysis showed that day use revenue was increased by 632% and day use visitation was increased by 637% from the same period in January 2020. While it is uncertain as to whether this trend will continue with such intensity throughout the year, a busy January leaves us hopeful that visitation will remain high going forward and the year ahead will be productive and fruitful for the District. As we move into February, Recreation staff are focused on refreshing the facility, securing a concessionaire for the marina and storefront operations, completing a staffing plan and hiring quality staff, and preparing for the year ahead.

**1. Tasks and Activities**

- January 1, 2, 3, 5: With assistance from O&M staff, searched for, located, isolated, and coordinated the repair of a leaking 6” line in the domestic water system.
  - January 5: Disposed of an abandoned boat that had been stored in the dry storage yard for several years.
  - January 6: Installed a printer in the gatehouse to provide greater efficiencies for staff.
  - January 7: Removed significant amounts of debris from the area of Piru Canyon Road adjacent to the Recreation Area.
  - January 9, 10, 14, 20: Worked to clear several downed trees throughout the Recreation Area due to a significant wind event.
  - January 9, 13, 14: With assistance from Administrative staff, cleaned and inventoried the Condor Point store.
  - January 10: Removed a significant amount of trash from the dry storage / shop area.
  - January 10: Picked up and disposed of trash that had been scattered across the day use picnic area by high winds.
  - January 11, 12: Pressure washed picnic tables throughout the Recreation Area to provide higher quality facilities for guests and determine which picnic tables need repainting or replacement.
  - January 12: Installed new IT infrastructure at the Santa Felicia Dam and Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant to assist IT Staff.
  - January 13: With assistance from O&M staff, worked together to clean the chlorine injection quill at the Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant to ensure continued flow of safe drinking water.
  - January 16: With assistance from O&M staff, constructed a pad of base fill in Resident’s Row to place a storage container on.
  - January 17: Changed a leaking rubber gasket on a pre-filter vessel at the Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant.
  - January 17: Repaired a leaking drip irrigation line in the Group 2 campground.
  - January 17: Painted trim in an ongoing effort to improve the appearance of the gatehouse.
  - January 18: Replaced the door on the paint storage shed, which had broken down and was no longer functional.
  - January 18, 21: Installed and mounted a safe at the Recreation Area to better secure cash and other valuables stored on premises.
  - January 18: Worked with a state contractor to install public awareness signs provided by the California Department of Boating & Waterways at several locations throughout the facility. These signs are intended to increase safety and reduce pollution at the Recreation Area.
  - January 19: Installed webcams on several computers at the Santa Felicia Dam to assist IT Staff.
  - January 20: With assistance from O&M staff, transferred polymer for the Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant and returned the plant to operational condition after two days of shutdown due to Public Safety Power Shutoff events.
  - January 21: Installed cloud-based CCTV cameras at several locations throughout the facility to provide a higher level of security in the Recreation Area.
-

- January 23: Cleared multiple large rocks which had fallen onto Piru Canyon Road due to wind and rain.
- January 24: Continued with efforts to cut and remove downed trees that blocked the Oak Lane fire road. The fallen trees were a result of recent windstorms that brought down dead oak trees near Group Camp One.

**2. Training/Meetings/Events**

- January 11, 18, 22: Met with several landscaping services to secure proposals for a potential landscaping contract for the Recreation Area. This effort is being done to evaluate the benefit of performing the work with a contracted vendor versus purchasing equipment and having District staff perform the work.
- January 12: Completed Live-Scan fingerprinting through the Ventura County Sheriff's Office to access criminal justice information and work more efficiently.
- January 14: Participated in a meeting to ensure District's compliance with Payment Card Industry standards, as we are now directly accepting payment at the Recreation Area.
- January 15: Met with representatives from House Sanitary Supply to secure necessary cleaning supplies for the Recreation Area.
- January 17: Completed periodic training on policy and operating procedures through the District's contracted policy vendor Lexipol.
- January 19: Met with Environmental Services staff to review permitting from California Department of Fish & Wildlife and ensure compliance with environmental regulations.
- January 20: Met with Engineering staff to discuss potential CIP projects in the coming fiscal year and to discuss a five-year CIP project list for the Recreation Area.
- January 21: Met with representatives from Southeast Media to review the first version of the Recreation Area's new reservation system and familiarize themselves with the operation of the system. Staff identified several changes and will be working with the firm to further refine the software.

**3. Revenue & Visitation Recap**

<b>2020 End of Year Revenue Recap &amp; Comparison</b>	
<b>2019</b> Calendar Year (Jan.-Dec.)	\$1,073,654.11
<b>2020</b> Calendar Year (Jan.-Dec.)	\$ 470,834.51
Total Revenue Increase/Decrease from Prior Year	-\$ 602,819.60*
<b>2021 Revenue Recap &amp; Comparison</b>	
2021 Day Use Revenue (Jan. 1-31)	\$ 15,221.00
2020 Day Use Revenue (Jan. 1-31)	\$ 1,570.00
Total Revenue Increase/Decrease from Prior Year	\$ 13,651.00

*\*Revenue has been impacted by the park closure order due to COVID-19*

2020 Total Visitation Figures				
Month	# Nights/Sites	# People	# Vehicles	# Vessels
January	127	739	339	26
February	197	1253	556	130
March	117	893	387	68
April	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0
July	720	4307	1688	243
August	171	3478	1421	415
September	686	7781	3109	760
October	618	6474	2591	635
November	626	4700	1866	273
December	33	1691	809	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>3295</b>	<b>32404</b>	<b>12766</b>	<b>2700</b>
2021 Total Visitation Figures				
Month	# Nights/Sites	# People	# Vehicles	# Vessels
January	0	2036	899	106

#### 4. Incidents/Arrests/Medicals

- There were three incidents of note during the month of January. They are as follows:
    - On January 2, 2021, Rangers located a vehicle left in the parking lot near the marina after hours. Rangers checked the area on foot and by boat and located the overdue party on the lake in an unlit inflatable raft. Their trolling motor had broken down and they were attempting to paddle back to the marina. Rangers provided the group with a ride back to the marina in the patrol boat and ensured they safely departed the Recreation Area.
    - On January 14, 2021, Rangers located a vehicle left in the parking lot near the marina after hours. Rangers checked the area on foot and by boat and located the overdue party on the lake in an unlit canoe without personal flotation devices. Rangers provided the group with a ride back to the marina on the patrol boat. Once back on land, Rangers determined that both persons in the canoe had been drinking and were not legally able to drive their vehicle. Rather than take enforcement action, Rangers opted to educate the group and coordinate a sober driver to come to the lake and transport the group out of the Recreation Area.
    - On January 22, 2021, Rangers completed a patrol of District property in the Santa Clara River drainage near Saticoy. Rangers identified a large fallen tree which will need to be removed from the access roadway into the area. Additionally, Rangers determined that a previously identified large homeless encampment on the property had been vacated but a smaller encampment had been established. Rangers are following up with the Ventura Police Department to conduct further patrols of the area.
-

**5. Citations/Enforcement Summary**

On January 3, 2021, Rangers issued a citation for violation of Ordinance 15, Section 3.2 (Enter/Use Recreation Area w/o Paying Fee) to a subject who was unwilling to voluntarily comply with District Ordinance.

**6. Grants**

Staff is continuing to actively monitor and evaluate all available grant opportunities. There is currently nothing to report on this matter.



### **Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer  
Dan Detmer, Supervising Hydrogeologist

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021, meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 5.3 Monthly Water Resources Department Report  
**Information Item**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Water Resources Department regarding its activities for the month of January as well as receive the presentation to the Board supporting this report.

#### **Discussion:**

As noted in our previous staff reports, the majority of staff continue to work from home and communicate via teleconferencing during the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### **Staff Activities**

In addition to the Department's routine, ongoing groundwater monitoring and reporting program and its support of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (summarized in a separate staff report), notable efforts and activities conducted by staff during the past month included the following:

- Groundwater modeling:
    - Staff has expanded the active domain of United's numerical groundwater flow model to incorporate the Piru, Fillmore and Santa Paula basins. The model was calibrated through 2015 and validated through the 2016-2019 period. Now that the expanded model has been validated, staff are preparing model documentation and applying the model for a number of urgent tasks, as described below and in the SGMA update staff report.
    - Staff has worked with Ventura County Watershed Protection District staff to use their existing HSPF surface water flow model to simulate runoff from the upper Santa Clara River watershed for future model runs in support of area Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs).
-

**Agenda Item: 5.3 Monthly Water Resources Department Report**  
**Information Item**

Page 2

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- Staff has completed the work required to apply climate change factors to historical streamflow and rainfall records, as required to simulated future hydrology for the local GSAs. Initial forward modeling runs have been executed and delivered to the Mound and Fillmore-Piru Basin GSAs
- Staff continue to help the Environmental Services Department (ESD) evaluate effects of existing and potential future surface-water flow conditions at the Freeman Diversion.
  - Staff are assisting ESD in evaluating fish passage modifications under consideration for United's Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).
- Staff continue to assist with planning and coordination for release of Table A water and supplemental State Water Project water acquired from the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency and the City of San Buenaventura.
- Staff has entered available lithologic information from wells in the Mugu area into a RockWorks database and has constructed cross-sections in order to map the continuity of confining units in the vicinity of the proposed Coastal Brackish Groundwater Extraction and Treatment Project. Aquifer and confining unit picks from individual borings can now be used to generate surfaces and layer thicknesses for local model refinements.
- Staff are analyzing sediment load at the Freeman Diversion and removal options for accumulated sediment from the desilting basin.
- Staff continue to support the Engineering Department with development and design of water-supply projects within the District's service area.
- Field staff completed the monthly monitoring run for groundwater elevations and sampling of the non-coastal monitoring wells.





### **Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer  
Dan Detmer, Supervising Hydrogeologist

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021, meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 5.4 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)  
**Information Item**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Water Resources Department regarding its activities for the month of January as well as receive a presentation to the Board supporting this report.

#### **Discussion:**

##### **Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA)**

Staff continue to monitor and, where appropriate, participate in the FCGMA's groundwater sustainability planning and implementation efforts in the Oxnard, Pleasant Valley, and Las Posas Valley (western management area) basins, as follows:

*Board of Directors meetings* – The next regular FCGMA Board meeting is scheduled for January 27 at 1:30 pm. The meeting will be held after the submission of this report and, therefore, a summary will be included in next month's staff report. Notable agenda items include:

- The Board will consider approving a contract with Dudek to prepare groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) annual updates for the Las Posas Valley basin, Oxnard basin, and Pleasant Valley basin. The contract also includes conduct of feasibility studies for new water supply projects.
  - The Board will consider approving a contract with Jarvis Fay & Gibson to provide services related to the development and adoption of groundwater augmentation fees consistent with Prop 26 and Prop 218 requirements for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley (OPV) basins.
  - Staff will provide the Board an update on plans to continue stakeholder engagement in the OPV basins.
-

**Agenda Item: 5.4 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)**  
**Information Item**

Page 2

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*Executive Committee meeting* – The FCGMA Board’s Executive Committee held a meeting on January 21. The primary topic of this meeting was a staff update on continuing stakeholder engagement in the OPV basins and introduction of the FCGMA’s new consulting facilitation team (from The Hallmark Group).

- The Board will consider approving a contract with Dudek to prepare groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) annual updates for the Las Posas Valley basin, Oxnard basin, and Pleasant Valley basin. The contract also includes conduct of feasibility studies for new water-supply projects.

*OPV Core Stakeholder Group meetings* –

- The OPV Core Stakeholder Group and Project Committee has changed to a FCGMA-led effort and will continue OPV stakeholder engagement through the FCGMA Executive Committee.
- The Projects Committee of the OPV Core Stakeholder Group will continue its efforts through the FCGMA Committee meetings.
- Selected United staff and counsel also attended the January 19 meeting of the Legal *Ad Hoc* Committee of the OPV Core Stakeholder Group. Discussions by this committee are subject to a non-disclosure agreement.

**Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (FPBGSA)**

Staff continue to participate in FPBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP preparation for the Fillmore and Piru basins, as follows:

*Board of Directors meetings* – The FPBGSA held a regular Board meeting on January 21 at 5:00 pm. Notable topics included:

- A report from Daniel B. Stephens & Associates on development of the draft Sustainable Groundwater Management Criteria. Discussion centered on results of forward modeling runs using California Department of Water Resources specified climate factors.
- A presentation from Christopher Kibler, PhD candidate at University of California Santa Barbara, on the findings of his recent study on interactions between droughts and health of riparian vegetation with local ecosystem context provided by Stillwater Sciences.
- A presentation from UWCD principal Hydrologist, Murray McEachron, on the 2020 water release and other releases in recent years from Lake Piru and the benefit to groundwater recharge and groundwater elevations in the Piru and Fillmore basins.
- A brief update from Daniel B. Stephens & Associates and United staff on progress related to the DWR grant for new monitoring wells in the Piru and Fillmore basins and options for using existing shallow production wells as new monitoring locations.

**Agenda Item: 5.4 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)**  
**Information Item**

Page 3

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*Communication and Outreach* – A third Stakeholder Workshop was held on December 9 to discuss historical and current water budgets for the basins. Dr. Jason Sun presented an update on United’s groundwater model, including expert panel review, input parameters, and model validation.

*GSP preparation* – Consultant DBS&A have reported progress on various work products in support of GSP development and noted the availability of a web-based data management and mapping system that includes well construction information and available water level and water quality records for wells within the Piru and Fillmore basins.

*Modeling* – Staff have completed the hydrostratigraphic conceptual model for the Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru basins, and have completed calibration of the active domain of United’s numerical groundwater flow model for the base period years 1985-2015. Staff has completed a model update for the years 2016-2019 and performed a model validation exercise. Staff has worked with Ventura County Watershed Protection District staff to use their existing HSPF surface water flow model to simulate runoff from the upper Santa Clara River watershed for future model runs in support of area GSAs. Staff has completed the work required to apply climate change factors to historical streamflow and rainfall records, as required to simulated future hydrology in the study area. The initial future runs applying 2030 and 2070 climate change factors and forecasted groundwater pumping have been completed and provided to the technical consultant for the GSA.

**Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MBGSA)**

Staff continue to participate in MBGSA activities supporting SGMA compliance and GSP development for the Mound basin, as follows:

*Board of Directors meetings* –

The MBGSA Board held a regular meeting on January 21. Notable topics of discussion included:

- The Board received a status update from Executive Director Bryan Bondy on GSP development and schedule, including selecting a date for the next stakeholder workshop (March 4 at 6:00 PM).

*GSP preparation* – United staff continue to compile and review data to support preparation of the Mound basin GSP, in general accordance with United’s agreement with the MBGSA. United has delivered model runs for potential future groundwater levels and flows in Mound Basin under various future climate change scenarios and is developing draft text, tables, and figures in support of the water-budget section of the GSP.

**Agenda Item: 5.4 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)**  
**Information Item**

Page 4

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**Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

Staff continue to participate in the Santa Paula basin TAC in support of the Santa Paula Basin Judgment and in conformance with SGMA reporting requirements for adjudicated basins, as follows:

- Staff are preparing a draft version of the Santa Paula Basin Annual Report for 2020.
- The TAC meeting scheduled for June 2020 has been postponed; a specific date and time have not been selected yet. It is anticipated that the Technical Working Group of the TAC will meet prior to the next TAC meeting, to discuss the current status of United's groundwater flow model expansion and how the effectiveness of the proposed yield-enhancement measures might be forecasted using the model. The Technical Working Group is also expected to discuss the "Triggers" proposal/memorandum at an upcoming meeting.



### **Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager  
Anthony A. Emmert, Assistant General Manager

**From:** Joseph Jereb, Chief Financial Officer  
Josh Perez, Human Resources Manager  
Zachary Plummer, Information Technology Administrator  
Kris Sofley, Executive Administrative Coordinator/Clerk of the Board

**Date:** January 28, 2021 (February 10, 2021 meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 5.5 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report  
**Informational Item**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Administrative Service Department regarding its activities for the month of December as well as receive the presentation to the Board supporting this report.

#### **Discussion:**

Activities that took place during the month of January 2021 include:

#### **Finance:**

- Held FY 2021-22 Budget Kickoff meeting with UWCD management.
- Met with Department Managers to review their December YTD spend and create an updated projection and analysis of total FY 20-21 spend.
- Developed Vendor Accounts Payable ACH payment process.
- Assisted Recreation in implementing credit card payments in Lake Piru.

#### **Administration:**

- Finalized new Explore Lake Piru website.
  - Continued organization of District's first floor and "museum" files/display items.
  - Organizing UWCD logo wear requests by department for FY 2021-22.
  - Responding to email inquiries regarding Lake Piru Reservations and reopening for overnight camping
  - Continued legislative outreach effort on behalf of General Manager
  - Coordinating with CV Strategies on social media posts and presentations for the General Manager as a continuation of District's public outreach efforts.
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**Human Resources:**

- Processed employee evaluations and step increases that were scheduled for January
- Completed annual end of year updates (SDI, SUI, misc. allowances, end of year deduction allocations, PERS compensation limits into our financial and human resources management system
- Worked extensively on staffing plan reorganization updates in preparation for budget discussions
- Coordinated annual employee service awards delivery and scripts for Board meeting presentation.
- Processed promotion documents for new Chief Operations Officer position.
- Worked with Recreation Department on several job descriptions for potential new positions that will be necessary in the wake of the Lake takeover of operations.
- Processed employee payroll changes into Incode (address change, tax changes, changes in deductions, base pay, cash out requests)
- Coordinated employee DOT testing to comply with DOT-regulated testing requirements
- Completed the 2020 1094-C and 1095-C for full time employees due to IRS February 28<sup>th</sup>
- Provided SDRMA responses to specific insurance related requests on specific items as part of their annual audit.
- Processed several enrollment applications for staff to enroll in District's 457b Plan
- Preparing to complete the 2021 SDRMA Annual Renewal Questionnaire submission due on March 1st

**Safety and Risk Management:**

- Updated COVID-19 Prevention Program Plan based on the latest information complying with all best practices cited by local, state, and federal regulatory agencies.
  - Updated and Posted Annual OSHA 300A Log
  - Earned Certified Safety Professional designation through the Board of Certified Safety Professionals
  - Delivered COVID-19 Updates and Training on Excavation/Trenching during monthly safety meeting
  - Supported O&M with inquiry from regulatory agency on our current emergency response plan
  - Identified and procured security needs at Lake Piru in collaboration with Chief Park Ranger
  - Conducted monthly review and assignment of February Daily Training Bulletins for Park Rangers
  - Develop Emergency Accountability Plan with Assistance from GIS Analyst and Human Resources personnel
  - Coordinated training on SDS Management System with designated site administrators
  - Procured emergency water supplies and emergency meals for preparedness repository/kit at HQ, El Rio, and Saticoy facilities
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**Information Technology:**

- Provided IT Support for the following virtual meetings:
    - UWCD Water Resources Committee Meeting (Jan 5)
    - UWCD Recreation Committee Meeting (Jan 6)
    - Engineering and Operations Committee (Jan 7)
    - UWCD Finance and Audit Committee (Jan 12)
    - UWCD Board of Directors Monthly Meeting (Jan 13)
    - FPB GSA Board Meeting (Jan 21)
    - Monthly Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) Meeting (Jan 26)
  - General IT Helpdesk/Cyber Support:
    - Supported Environmental Services staff to troubleshoot fish monitoring and network video recording equipment at Freeman Diversion.
      - Replaced a failed hard disk and rebuilt the RAID array (failure resilience module)
      - Ordered replacement Synology Disk equipment to be replaced during a time TBD while the freeman fish ladder has low chance of requiring operation.
    - Migrated Chief Ranger and Senior Ranger cellular service to AT&T's First Responders (FirstNet) service program and issued new devices.
    - Purchased and new point of sale desktop computers, printing equipment and cash drawers for accepting cash payments at Lake Piru.
    - Installed networking equipment at the Lake Piru Recreation Area Rangers Office to support planned activities and communications requirements.
    - Purchased and setup Point of Sale Credit Card Terminals for use at the Lake Piru Recreation Area entry area.
    - Conducted PCI compliance survey for accepting Card Payments at the Lake Gatehouse. Pending Final review and submission.
    - Submitted a telecommunications service transfer from PMC to UWCD to maintain ownership of the published recreation facility land lines.
    - Purchased laptop equipment and peripherals for groundwater modeler. Provisioned the equipment with UWCD Management software and reshipped the equipment to home address for remote access.
    - Designed and implemented a small managed network for use by Point-of-Sale Devices at Lake Piru
    - Purchased, issued, and installed additional virtual meeting peripherals to District staff to ensure technology capabilities for all to participate in virtual meetings.
    - Upgraded the UWCD Boardroom audio and microphone controllers. Previous software versions expired and ceased working on Jan 1, 2021.
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- IT Meetings and Events:
  - Lake Piru Website and Reservation Technology Discussion
  - Participated in virtual call with CV Strategies and Mysites.com partners.
  - Technology discussion with Novacoast and Check Point reviewing and adjusting software security licensing agreements for 2021-22.
  - Follow up meeting with Netwrix Sales and Presales Engineers to discuss IT Audit Software - Monitoring of privileged access and system changes.
  - UWCD Virtual Meeting with Engineering and Operations FERC Assessment teams to review the current progress on UWCD Cyber Security Program Development.
  - System health check call with Veeam - Reviewed United's Data backup systems and upcoming product enhancements
- Ticket Metrics: (as of Jan 26th)
  - 5 New Tickets Submitted in the month of January 2021
  - 11 Tickets completed and closed in the month January 2021
  - 17 Tickets in Progress or Awaiting Update
  - Majority of Ticket Submissions redirected through e-mails directed to IT Administrator



### **Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager

**From:** Maryam A. Bral, Chief Engineer  
Craig A. Morgan, Senior Engineer  
Robert J. Richardson, Senior Engineer  
Michel Kadah, Engineer  
Adrian Quiroz, Associate Engineer  
Erik Zvirbulis, GIS Analyst

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021 meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report  
**Information item**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will receive and file this summary report from the Engineering Department regarding its activities for the month of January.

#### **Discussion:**

As noted in our previous staff reports, the majority of staff continue to work from home and communicate via teleconferencing products during the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### **1. Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Projects**

- **Spillway Improvement Project**
  - Staff continued the review of the Technical Memoranda prepared by GEI.
  - Staff submitted comments on the 60% plans for the spillway heel drain cleanout project to GEI. The comments will be addressed in the final plans.
- **Outlet Works Improvement Project**
  - Staff met with Operations Staff and GEI virtually on January 6 to discuss the 30% design plans. Several design alternatives and safety measures and option were discussed. A follow up meeting with Operations Staff is scheduled for February 10 to review the alternatives and provide comments to GEI that can help enhancing the design.
  - Staff worked with GEI to develop a Vibrating Wire Piezometer (VWP) spreadsheet for recording piezometer reading data and developing charts. The spreadsheet will be

## 5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

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- updated monthly, and the data will be included in the dam safety monthly inspection reports.
- Staff has prepared a draft project schedule that would extend the design and construction schedule of the dam safety improvement project by approximately two years. If approved by the regulators, sufficient time will be allocated for review and approval of the design plans at 30%, 60%, 90% and 100% by the regulators and Engineering and Operations Staff. Additionally, it will allow staff to seek grant opportunities and apply for grant funding in support of the project. FERC has indicated that the request for time extension will be evaluated once a formal request is submitted. Staff is in the process of developing a formal request including a discussion on mitigation safety measures for the proposed time extension.
  - The above updates reported for the Spillway Improvement Project also apply to the Outlet Works Improvement Project.
- Santa Felicia Dam Safety
    - Staff has begun planning for the 2021 Santa Felicia Dam Biennial Monitoring Survey. The purpose of this survey is to detect vertical or horizontal movement of the dam structure. Encompass Consultant Group (ECG), the District's survey consultant that performed the 2019 monitoring survey, has been contacted by District Staff and is in the process of preparing a proposal for the survey work. The District plans to conduct the survey in May 2021 as this survey has historically been performed during the spring months in previous years.
  - FERC License Amendment Application and NEPA Documentation
    - Staff submitted the 401 Water Quality (WQ) Certification application to the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) on November 20, 2020. Staff received a letter from the Water Board on December 21 notifying the District that the 401 WQ Certification application is incomplete per the California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 23, section 3856 and additional information is needed to comply with the new certification procedures established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), which went into effect on September 11, 2020.
    - Staff attended a conference call with the Water Board and the District's consultant, Catalyst on January 21 to discuss the USEPA's new regulations, including a request for a pre-filing meeting with the certifying authority at least 30 days before submitting the WQ certification request. Staff submitted a letter to the Water Board on January 26 requesting a pre-filing meeting.
    - A pre-construction notification (PCN) will be submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) for coverage under Nationwide Permit No. 17.
    - Staff will prepare the documents and information necessary to satisfy the requirements of the CCR and USEPA and will include it in the 401 WQ Certification application for
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## 5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

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resubmission to the Water Board and to the federal agencies, including the ACOE and FERC.

- Staff submitted a follow up response letter to FERC comments on the draft Biological Assessment report and the Section 7 consultation on December 16. Currently, the draft BA is being revised per FERC comments.

### 2. Santa Felicia Dam Sediment Management Project

- Staff plan to execute a Professional Consulting Services Agreement (PSA) with GEI for the Santa Felicia Dam Sediment Removal Study in February 2021. The study will analyze the feasibility of a sediment removal project and compare underwater dredging methods to in the dry sediment removal with traditional excavation equipment. GEI will summarize the study in a draft technical memorandum that will be provided to the District 16 weeks after the Notice to Proceed is issued to GEI.

### 3. Pothole Trailhead Parking Area

- Construction of the Pothole Trailhead Parking Area is now complete (See Figure 1). Substantial completion was achieved on December 31, 2020 and final completion was subsequently achieved on January 07, 2021. A notice of completion has been recorded at the Ventura County Recorder's Office. The District will prepare to operate and maintain the facility for the remainder of the term of the FERC license. The facility will be accessible to public vehicular access when the Forest Service decides to move forward with the opening of the Juan Fernandez Gate.

### 4. Freeman Diversion Rehabilitation/Fish Passage Facility

- On January 25, staff and CDFW had a conference call to discuss the CDFW comments on the physical model plan.
- On February 2 and February 5, staff, USBR, NMFS, CDFW, Dr. Weber, Stantec and NHC had conference calls to discuss USBR's updated physical modeling plan.
- Two contract amendment agreements for continued technical support by NHC and Stantec during the physical modeling efforts were executed.

### 5. Iron and Manganese Removal at the El Rio Water Treatment Plant

- January 26, 2021 – District staff reviewed the draft Prop 1 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) agreement comments from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and coordinated with the grant administrator, Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD).
  - January 20, 2021 – Staff attended a demo by Construction Bid Board and considered applicability to meet the bid process requirements for this project.
  - Staff developed a bid process plan.
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## 5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

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- Staff coordinated with the Ventura County Fire Department and incorporated comments into the 100% design plans.
- January 22, 2021 – District received the stamped and signed final 100% design plans, specifications and estimate from Kennedy/Jenks Consultants.
- January 29, 2021 – District received notification from CMWD that DWR plans on executing the Prop 1 IRWM grant agreement in June 2021. It may still be possible to proceed with the bid process and construction contract award before execution of the grant agreement. District staff will discuss and decide whether to proceed with the below schedule.
- The tentative schedule for the project is as follows:
  - March 5, 2021 – Advertise for construction bids
  - May 12, 2021 – Award construction contract

### 6. El Rio Well Replacement

- Bids were received for the El Rio Water Well No. 19 project. Best Drilling and Pump, Inc., Nor-Cal Pump & Well Drilling, Inc, and Zim Industries, Inc. all submitted bids with bids ranging from \$450,774 through \$604,874. Staff is recommending an award of contract to Best Drilling and Pump, Inc. (please see Motion Item for the February Board Meeting)

### 7. OH Backup Generator at the El Rio Booster Plant

- Formerly listed as CalOES HGMP sub application in the staff report, Item 16 is updated to OH Backup Generator at the El Rio Booster Plant as shown above. Staff continues to report the project progress under the new project title.
  - At the January 13 Board meeting, filing a CEQA Notice of Categorical Exemption was approved and adopted by the Board. The Notice of Exemption was filed on the CEQAnet Web Portal on January 19.
  - On January 15, Staff submitted the first quarterly report to CalOES as part of the CalOES Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) requirements.
  - On January 15, Staff released the request for Quotations for a new 800kW diesel powered emergency generator and the notice inviting bids for the Construction of the Oxnard Hueneme System Backup Generator project. Addendum No. 1 to the bid documents was issued on January 19 which included structural design documents.
  - On January 25, Staff held a mandatory pre-bid job walk inspection meeting for the OH System Backup Generator Project. With only one contractor in attendance,
  - Staff in consultation with the Legal Counsel issued Addendum No. 2 on January 28 that postpone the bid due date to February 22 to ensure the receipt of several bids. As part of Addendum No. 2, Staff included the District's COVID 19 response plan in the bid documents and requested hard copy bids.
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## 5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

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### 8. PTP Turnout Metering System Improvement

- Total number of meters installed: 20 of 61 installed, 33% (no change)
- O&M staff is making progress to resolve communication issues with the equipment supplier and radio manufacturer and has set-up a test site at PTP Well No. 2.
- Easement acquisition completion: 11 of 41 obtained, 27% (no change)
- All owner-signed easements have been recorded with the County Recorder's office.

### 9. Recycled Water Update

- On December 11, 2020, the District sent a letter to Mr. Alexander Nguyen (City Manager for the City of Oxnard) acknowledging recycled water as an important source of water to the region, and also reminding the City of its obligation under the "Full Advanced Treatment Recycled Water Management and Use Agreement" to design, permit and construct one recycled water connection to the PTP system.
- On January 20, 2021, the City of Oxnard Office of the City Manager responded to the District's letter stating that the City did not commit to a particular timeline for the connection to the PTP system and acknowledged the regional role of Oxnard and UWCD and working together.
- On January 25, 2021, the City of Oxnard City Council approved three appointment items:
  - Construction contract with Blois Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$13,713,961 for the Hueneme Road Recycled Water Pipeline Phase II (Rebid 2) Project.
  - Construction contract with Speiss Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$4,167,000 for the ASR (Aquifer Storage Recovery) Well #1 (Rebid) Project.
  - 2021 Water Revenue Bonds in the principal amount of \$30,000,000.
- In January 2021, staff met with Ian Prichard (Camrosa Water District or "Camrosa"), Jared Bouchard (Pleasant Valley County Water District or "PVCWD") and Lucie McGovern (Camarillo Sanitary District or "CSD"). Discussion involved conducting a data collection effort of existing supplies and demands within the area to better determine the volume and timing of potential non-utilized water in the area which could be put to beneficial use.

### 10. State Water Project (SWP) Interconnection Project

- Staff received an updated draft joint agency agreement (agreement) for the SWP Interconnection project from the City of Ventura on January 14. The draft copy includes United's latest comments as well as Casitas Municipal Water District's comments on the draft joint agreement. The City will include Calleguas Municipal Water District's comments on the draft joint agreement in February and distribute it to all three agencies for a final review.

## **5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item**

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### **11. Coastal Brackish Water Treatment Plant**

- Water Resources Staff completed geological characterization and assessment of the confining unit using existing information.
- Staff reviewed and analyzed third quarter special sampling data from existing monitoring wells in preparation for improved treatment modeling (conceptual-level).
- Staff reviewed an existing basewide assessment and site inspection report as it relates to proposed extraction well locations along Beach Road.
- On January 28, 2021, Engineering, Water Resources and Environmental staff met with Nathan Jacobsen (U.S. Navy) to provide an update on the conceptual design, CEQA/NEPA consultant selection process, groundwater modeling effort under the Proposition 1 grant and six-month outlook. Staff discussed additional data requests and planning for subsurface geotechnical exploration.

### **12. Asset Management**

- IT Staff is working with a consultant to finalize specifications needed for UWCD's Servers in order to implement ESRI's Small Utility Enterprise Agreement.

### **13. 2020 Urban Water Management Plan**

- On January 4, 2020 Staff received a draft version of the OH System Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Chapters 1 and 2 from Stantec for review. Staff held a progress meeting with Stantec to discuss Chapters 1 and 2 and subsequent chapters under development.
- On January 11, 2020 Staff provided initial review comments back to Stantec as well as updates to several data components with complete 2020 records for subsequent chapters that were to be developed.
- On January 20, 2021 Staff held a progress meeting with Stantec to discuss Chapters 3 and 4 that are were under development and plan for completing the Administrative Draft version of the UWMP.
- On February 1, 2021 Staff held a progress meeting with Stantec to discuss the status of the draft UWMP Chapters 3-9 being prepared by Stantec.
- By February 8, 2021 Staff expects to receive a complete Administrative Draft version of the UWMP (Chapters 1-9) from Stantec for review.

### **14. Other Topics, Meetings and Training**

- January 6, 2021 – Engineering and Operations staff met with GEI Consultants to discuss the 30% Outlet Works Design for the Santa Felicia Dam.
  - January 12, 2021 – Staff participated in an ASDSO Webinar – Fundamentals of Concrete Construction Inspections for Dams and Appurtenant Structures.
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## **5.6 Monthly Engineering Department Report**

### **Information Item**

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- January 13, 20, 27, 2021 – Staff Robert Richardson participated in (3) sessions of IDE’s Advanced Course - Unfolding RO Desalination.
- January 14, 2021 – Maryam Bral participated in a Castaic Dam Stakeholder Engagement workshop with DWR.
- January 19, 2021 – Maryam Bral participated in an AWA Water Issues Committee Meeting.
- January 20, 2021 – Engineering Staff participated in a training on eBidboard.
- January 21, 2021 – Maryam Bral, and Water Resources Staff; Dan Detmer and John Lindquist attended the first OPV Stakeholders Group meeting in 2021.
- January 21, 2021 – Maryam Bral and Robert Richardson participated in an AWA Water Information Breakfast Series - What Does NOAA Know? Wind, Drought, Rain? What Will 2021 Bring?
- January 25, 2021 – Craig Morgan and Michel Kadah held the pre-bid job walk inspection meeting for the OH System Backup Generator Project.
- January 25, 2021 – Maryam Bral and Robert Richardson attended an Oxnard City Council meeting.
- January 27, 2021 – Robert Richardson participated in a CCWUC Virtual Training - Maintaining Water System Operations During The COVID-19 Pandemic.
- January 27, 2021 – Maryam Bral and Robert Richardson participated in a webcast: Water Reuse Policy in the 117th Congress and Biden Administration.
- January 28, 2021 – Maryam Bral and John Lindquist participated in the OPV Projects Committee meeting.
- January 28, 2021 – Maryam Bral and Robert Richardson participated in the DuPont’s Water Academy Webinar - Introducing CCRO launch into WAVE.
- February 1, 2021 – Maryam Bral and Robert Richardson met with Carollo to discuss Brackish Groundwater Extraction and Treatment.



**Figure 1 – Completed Pothole Trailhead Parking Area**



### **Staff Report**

**To:** UWCD Board of Directors

**Through:** Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager  
Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager

**From:** Linda Purpus, Environmental Services Manager

**Date:** February 1, 2021 (February 10, 2021 Meeting)

**Agenda Item:** 5.7 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report  
**Information Item**

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#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Environmental Services Department regarding its activities for the month of January 2021.

#### **Discussion:**

1. Santa Felicia Project Operations and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) License Support
    - Water Release Plan
      - Under the Water Release Plan and FERC license for the Santa Felicia Project, United is required to make certain water releases from Santa Felicia Dam for steelhead habitat and migration, when specific triggers are met. Triggers for habitat water releases are based on cumulative rainfall within the water year (beginning October 1 each year) as recorded at Ventura County Watershed Protection District's rainfall station No. 160, located at Lake Piru (see table below). United evaluates whether the trigger is met on the first day of each month, between January and June. The table below presents trigger criteria for each month and minimum required releases if those triggers are met. Each month that the trigger is not met, the minimum required habitat water release is 7 cubic feet per second (cfs). The trigger was not met on February 1, 2021. The minimum required habitat water release for the month of February will remain at 7 cfs.
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**Monthly Environmental Services Department Report**  
**Information Item**

<b>2021 Habitat water release trigger date</b>	<b>Trigger criteria (total cumulative precipitation on trigger date)</b>	<b>Minimum required water release if trigger is met</b>	<b>2021 Measured cumulative precipitation</b>	<b>Actual minimum required habitat water release for month</b>
<b>January 1</b>	4.80 inches	15 cfs	1.73 inches	7 cfs
<b>February 1</b>	8.10 inches	20 cfs	3.27 inches	7 cfs
<b>March 1</b>	12.00 inches	20 cfs	TBD	TBD
<b>April 1</b>	14.90 inches	20 cfs	TBD	TBD
<b>May 1</b>	16.30 inches	10 cfs	TBD	TBD
<b>June 1</b>	17.50 inches	9 cfs*	TBD	TBD

\*If triggered, the minimum required water release will remain at 9 cfs through October 1, at which time, minimum required water release will be 7 cfs through January 1 of next calendar year.

- **Whitewater Boating Access Plan**
  - Environmental Services staff supported the Recreation Department in coordinating the Annual Santa Felicia Whitewater Boating Access Monitoring Report (Annual Report) for activities conducted during 2020. A draft of the report was submitted to stakeholders and consulting agencies for a 30-day review and comment period on December 10, 2020. No comments were received. Staff filed the Annual Report with FERC on January 14, 2021.
- **Santa Felicia Facility and Lake Piru Recreation Area General Maintenance Permits**
  - On January 19, 2021, Environmental Services staff met with Recreation and Operations and Maintenance staff to provide an overview of the activities covered within their respective Routine Maintenance Agreements/Permits (under California Fish and Game Code Sec. 1600, and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act) and the terms and conditions of those agreements, with special focus on nesting bird concerns in advance of the nesting bird season.

**2. Freeman Diversion Facility Operations**

- In January, staff continued with preparations for Freeman Diversion operations and monitoring for the upcoming winter season. The windstorm that occurred on January 19, 2021, resulted in a loss of power at the Freeman Diversion. This interruption in power caused a component failure within the network storage device responsible for operating the video surveillance system on the Freeman fish ladder and a complete loss of surveillance capabilities. Environmental Services staff coordinated with IT staff to identify the issue and develop a solution. Staff initiated repair and replacement actions intended to salvage the existing device and prepare to facilitate a migration to a new device more tolerant of such interruptions in the future.
- On January 14, 2021, Environmental Services met with Rincon Consultants, Inc. to formally initiate contracted activities to pursue permits and authorizations required to facilitate

development and implementation of a programmatic approach for sediment management upstream of the Freeman Diversion. On January 21, 2021, staff conducted a reconnaissance survey and site orientation at the Freeman Diversion for Rincon Consultants Inc., staff who will be conducting field investigations to support the effort.

- On January 20, 2021 Environmental Services Field Assistants received training from the Senior Hydrologist to perform required discharge measurements throughout United's facilities and in the Santa Clara River in support of the District's water resource management initiatives.
- On January 19, 2021, Environmental Services staff met with Saticoy Operations and Maintenance staff to provide an overview to the activities covered within Routine Maintenance Agreements/Permits (under California Fish and Game Code Sec. 1600, and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act) and the terms and conditions of those agreements, with special focus on nesting bird concerns in advance of the nesting bird season.

### 3. Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)

- Staff continued to coordinate with NMFS and CDFW, including participating in calls and meetings with CDFW habitat conservation, engineering, and hydrology departments regarding compliance with Fish & Game Code sections 5901 and 5937, outstanding comments on the MSHCP, and the approach to resolve these outstanding issues as the fish passage facility design and MSHCP process continues. Staff is currently developing the draft issue resolution approach for submittal to NMFS, USFWS, and CDFW confirmation prior to implementation. Staff has prepared draft responses to the letter issued by NMFS to United on December 19, 2020, to further clarify the legal basis under which the MSHCP will be evaluated and to again request the integration of Endangered Species Act (ESA) section 7 and section 10 consultation to maximize consistency between these processes. Further coordination with each agency will be necessary.
- GEI Consultants Inc. (GEI) completed the project description and a site reconnaissance survey in support of the geotechnical investigations for the fish passage facility engineering design assessment required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and regulatory permitting processes. The CEQA analysis is currently underway with the preparation of an Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration to fulfill the requirements of CEQA.

### 4. Quagga Mussel Management

- Monitoring
  - Environmental Services staff continues to conduct routine monitoring under the Quagga Mussel Monitoring and Control Plan (Plan) comprising: monthly water quality sampling; monthly veliger (microscopic planktonic larvae) sampling; monthly artificial substrate sampling in Lake Piru (plate sampling); and natural substrate sampling in Piru Creek (surface surveys). Surface surveys were also performed at locations accessed through Rancho Temescal property.
  - Staff continues to implement the Lower System Quagga Mussel Veliger Monitoring Program. Specifically, staff conducts monitoring activities in the lower water delivery system, including the Pleasant Valley (PV) and Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP) reservoirs. All data collected under the quagga mussel monitoring program are being compiled and evaluated and will be summarized in the 2020 annual report.

5. Miscellaneous

- On January 14 and 26, 2020, staff met with a representative from FERC to discuss the presence of least Bell's vireo in the vicinity of Lake Piru and the Santa Felicia facilities. In spring of 2020, individuals of this species were observed in areas where United conducts maintenance activities and provides recreational opportunities. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the mechanism for initiating consultation under section 7 of the ESA for the purpose of obtaining incidental take coverage for future activities.
- On January 19, 2021, Environmental Services staff participated in a teleconference with legal counsel to receive guidance regarding the nuances of the Porter-Cologne Act, Clean Water Act Sec. 401 Water Quality Certifications, and the authority of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- On January 21, 2020, Environmental Services Staff attended the AWA Waterwise Breakfast Series. A representative from NOAA presented on climate and weather patterns from 2020 and forecasts for 2021.



Posted on: February 1, 2021

## Press Release



**Ventura, Calif. —** On Tuesday, January 26, 2021, the City of Ventura's Water Commission unanimously voted to approve the proposed five-year water and wastewater rate increases. The recommended adjustments include a maximum annual rate increase of 7% for water service and 6% for wastewater service for the next five years. For the average homeowners, it is anticipated that this adjustment will amount to an average annual increase of \$7.75 to a monthly bill, for the next five years.

"Ventura must continually invest in our water and wastewater systems to ensure safe and reliable services," shared Ventura Water General Manager Susan Rungren. "It has been nearly three years since Ventura Water has increased rates. As a result, Ventura's water and wastewater rates have remained relatively low compared to our neighboring communities."

Over the last ten months, the Water Commission, with the support of City staff and financial consultants, has undergone a Water and Wastewater Rate Study to ensure sufficient revenue is available to operate and maintain existing systems and to invest in future projects.

The rate study evaluates items such as the City's water rate tiers, water shortage rates, wastewater rate structure, and financing options for major initiatives, such as the State Water Interconnection project and the VenturaWaterPure project.

"Responsible investments are needed now to secure future water supply, replace and repair aging infrastructure, improve water quality, and meet legal and environmental regulations," stated Assistant City Manager Akbar Alikhan.

As part of its recommendation, the Water Commission requested that rate adjustments beyond the first year are subject to an annual check-in each spring to authorize the rate adjustment necessary for each upcoming July. The Water Commission's rate recommendation will go before City Council on March 22, 2021. If approved, new rates will be implemented in July 2021.

Ventura Water staff will be sharing anticipated rate impacts at the upcoming Community meetings.

- February 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. - Midtown Ventura Community Council
- February 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. - Pierpont Bay Community Council
- February 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm, East Ventura Community Council
- February 19, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. - Chamber of Commerce Breakfast
- February 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. - College Area Community Council
- March 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. - Montalvo Community Council

More information on proposed rate changes is available at [www.VenturaWaterRates.net](http://www.VenturaWaterRates.net).





# State Water Agency Seeks Input from Local Groups on Infrastructure Projects

By Tony Kukulich

Jan 28, 2021 Updated 10 hrs ago

REGIONAL —There is an adage in California that goes, “Whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting over.”

But instead of fighting, the California Water Commission (CWC) is looking for opportunities to hear from local agencies on water infrastructure projects.

The CWC recently wrapped up a series of public workshops intended to determine the opportunity for a state role in financing water conveyance projects that meet the challenges of a changing climate. A water conveyance project is one that moves water, either through natural waterways like creeks, rivers and streams, or through man-made structures, such as pipes, ditches or canals.

“The workshops are an acknowledgement that conveyance is an important part of our water system,” said Laura Jensen, CWC assistant executive officer. “There’s a need to think about what a state investment might look like to both improve what we have now, or repair what we have now to be more resilient to the changes that are happening now, and we expect to continue in a changing climate. We’re trying to get a feel for what the priorities are in each region, but we’re not looking to create a comprehensive list of projects.”

Each of the four workshops focused on a different geographic region of the state. The Jan. 12 session concentrated on Northern California and was hosted by the Northern California Water Association (NCWA).

“Water suppliers in Northern California serve water for multiple benefits, including cities and rural communities, farms, fish, birds, wildlife and recreation,” said David J. Guy, NCWA president. “The conveyance of water is important for climate and water resilience in this region. We encourage active participation in this workshop to explore how conveyance projects can best serve these various beneficial purposes into the future.”

During discussions of California water conveyance projects, the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) was the elephant in the room. Expected to cost \$22 billion and take 15 years to build, the DCP is the latest iteration of plans to draw water from the northern reaches of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The water would then be conveyed into the Central Valley and

Southern California as far as San Diego through the existing network of State Water Project canals. Under Gov. Jerry Brown, the project was referred to as WaterFix and consisted of a pair of 35-mile-long tunnels buried 150 feet underground through the heart of the Delta. Gov. Gavin Newsom scaled the project down to a single tunnel with the introduction of the Water Resilience Portfolio, and WaterFix became the DCP.

Despite the significance of the DCP, it was not a workshop topic. The California Department of Water Resources is the state's lead agency on the tunnel project and is managing the public process for that initiative. As such, DCP falls outside of CWC's purview.

Workshop participant Carol Mahoney, Zone 7 manager of integrated water resources, said the DCP has wide-ranging implications for her agency. But with it off the table for discussion, she focused on other projects that would improve water delivery resiliency for the Tri-Valley. One such project is the Transfer-Bethany Pipeline – an initiative spearheaded by the Contra Costa Water District that will connect Zone 7 with the Los Vaqueros Reservoir. It will provide redundancy in the Zone 7 infrastructure that does not exist today.

“For us, we talked about the idea of effectively getting water to the Livermore Valley when it's needed,” Mahoney said. “That is our big concern, because 80% of our water does come through the Delta. That's our source. It's important to this valley to be able to move water here when it's needed. Those are the projects that are going to be most beneficial to Zone 7 outside of the Delta Conveyance Project.”

Newsom's Water Resilience Portfolio served as the impetus for the workshops. Introduced in April 2019 and finalized in July 2020, the portfolio is the Newsom administration's blueprint for equipping California to cope with more extreme droughts and floods, rising temperatures, declining fish populations, and over-reliance on groundwater, among other water-related challenges.

According to the CWC, existing conveyance structures are aging and in need of repair. Additionally, climate change will require new and improved connections designed for different purposes than the state's historic infrastructure. The commission's objective is to learn about regional conveyance needs and priorities that align with the goals of the resilience portfolio.

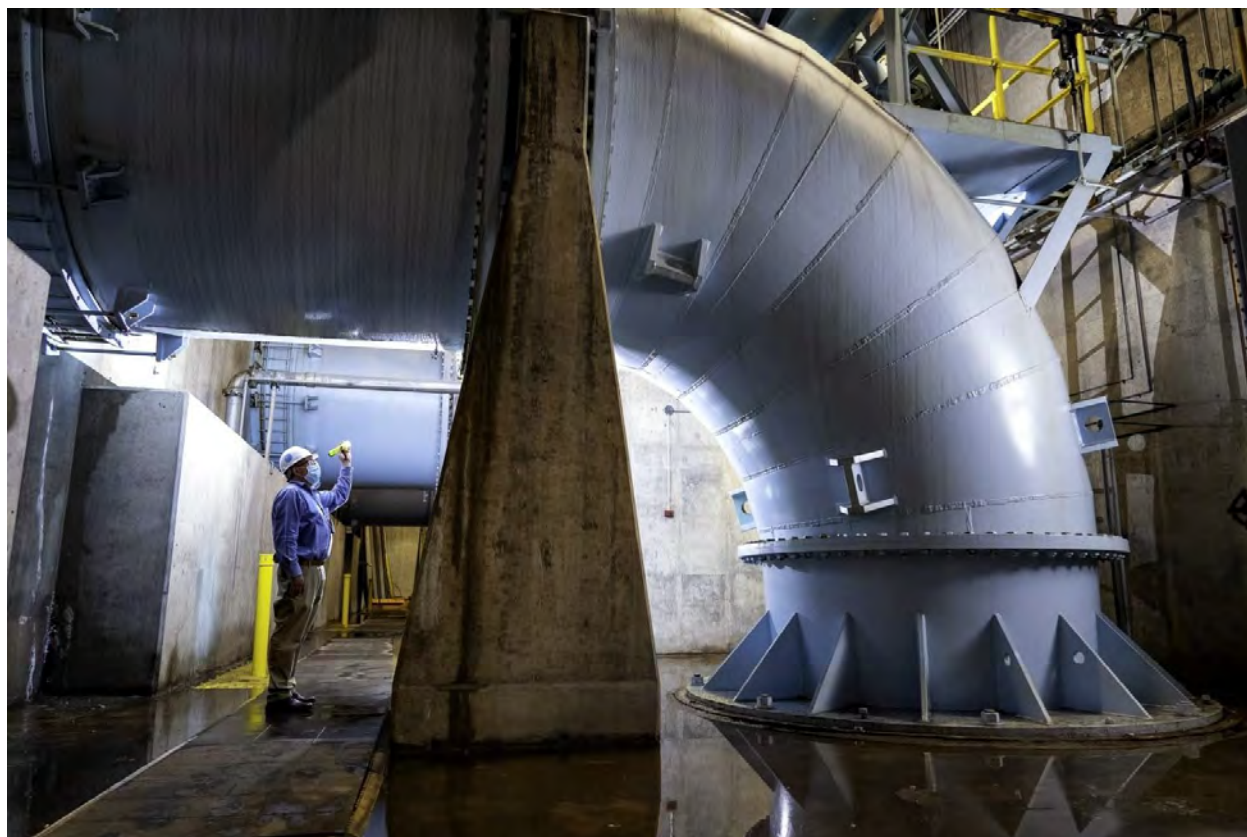
“The end result of this will be a white paper with recommendations that goes out to state policymakers that may be used to craft bond language that looks at bond funding for investment in water infrastructure,” Jensen said. “We are looking to make high-level suggestions about how to think about projects that come before the state – what kind of criteria do we use to evaluate them.”

Jensen expects the commission's recommendations to be available for public comment later this spring

## At Dawn of Biden Administration, Opportunities for Water Systems

January 21, 2021/in [Water News](#), [WEF](#) /by [Brett Walton](#)

*With Democratic control of the Presidency and Congress, water programs could receive more attention.*



Much of America's drinking water infrastructure is a result of investments made in the previous century. Jardine Water Purification Plant, which began operation in 1964, is the backbone of Chicago's drinking water system. Photo © Alex Garcia / Circle of Blue

**By Brett Walton, Circle of Blue**

President Joe Biden has made his priorities clear: subduing the pandemic, economic recovery, climate action, and racial equity.

He reiterated those national challenges once again on Wednesday following his swearing-in ceremony at the U.S. Capitol.

“We will be judged, you and I, for how we resolve the cascading crises of our era,” Biden said in his inaugural speech, after naming each of the four priorities.

Now comes the hard part — converting rhetoric into policy and policy into practice.

Climate has received top-billing within the president’s environmental agenda, but water infrastructure and water systems could also see their status lifted. Some observers are hopeful that the new administration and the Democratic Congress will uncork federal water spending that has been steady but flat in recent years. Before the inauguration, a coalition of more than 200 western irrigation districts and farming groups [asked the incoming administration](#) to prioritize water storage, conservation, habitat restoration, reuse, and expanded financing options for water infrastructure.

But others, wary of unfulfilled promises, are more cautious in their pronouncements about a big infrastructure package that would increase federal water spending several times over.

“At the beginning of any administration, I think it’s a no-brainer, but they usually don’t,” Martin Doyle, director of the water policy program at Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment, told Circle of Blue. “I expect to be disappointed.”

Congress, however, will have an opportunity to surprise.

In a call to action, Biden put forward a [\\$2 trillion climate plan](#) that mentions a bucketful of spending options to shore up America’s built and natural infrastructure: drinking water systems, sewage treatment, wetlands restoration, levee repairs, irrigation improvements, flood protection, and cleanup of abandoned oil and gas wells.

Biden pledged that disadvantaged communities — those that are predominantly low-income and communities of color with heavy pollution burdens — would receive 40 percent of the benefits of this spending.

Therein lies one of the tricky policy questions that the administration must address, Doyle said. How will the agencies define equity and justice? And how will those definitions steer funding to specific projects and communities?

“You have to come up with scoring criteria to ensure that injustice and inequity are being addressed,” explained Doyle, who worked on budget scoring when he was a fellow at the Interior Department during the Obama administration.

One of Biden's first actions on Wednesday was to [direct the Office of Management and Budget](#) to conduct a study on how to assess equity as it applies to agency actions. Agencies, in turn, will conduct their own equity evaluations. A working group was tasked with combing through federal datasets to build the informational foundation to support the initiative.

Besides the promise of infrastructure investment, there are immediate water needs related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Biden's \$1.9 trillion [Covid-relief proposal](#) includes \$5 billion to cover water and energy bill arrears and \$20 billion for tribal governments — money that could be used to provide running water to homes without it. Congress already appropriated \$638 million for overdue water bills.

Nathan Ohle, chief executive officer of Rural Community Assistance Partnership, said that those overdue bills are hurting utilities financially as well, particularly smaller utilities that may have fewer cash reserves to buffer a revenue downturn.

Because utilities are delaying repairs and capital projects during the emergency, federal aid to utilities and their customers could relieve financial burdens today while preserving the capacity to deliver water in the future.

"It's an opportunity to ensure that utilities can be sustainable," Ohle told Circle of Blue.

Both Ohle and Doyle said that federal financing programs like the state revolving funds could be used as leverage for structural changes within the water sector. The state revolving funds, which receive about \$2.5 billion annually in appropriations, facilitate low-interest loans for water, sewer, and green stormwater projects. Last year, House Democrats proposed boosting the revolving funds by \$62.9 billion over five years as part of their [Moving Forward package](#). Along with U.S. Department of Agriculture grants and loans, the funds are the primary federal funding source for water infrastructure.

One of the biggest structural hurdles is the array of community water systems, which number around 50,000. Many of these systems serve fewer than 3,000 customers and some only a few hundred.

Ohle, who represents rural interests, is not in favor of forcing utilities to merge simply to reduce the number of systems. But he said that conditions could be attached to grants and loans to require utilities to begin conversations about regional collaborations or other partnerships that could cut costs and improve service.

Doyle also mentioned the state revolving funds as a leverage point for policy items like utility mergers. But he was also noted that policymakers shouldn't overload the vehicle, weighing down a financing program with too many riders.

"At some point, a single program can't bear all the issues of water infrastructure," he said.

## US Water Alliance CEO Radhika Fox to Join the Office of Water at the Environmental Protection Agency

### *Fox is a Day One Appointee in the Biden-Harris Administration*

**January 21, 2021 – Washington, DC** – Today, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the selection of US Water Alliance CEO Radhika Fox as the Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water. Radhika is a Day One Presidential Appointee in the Biden-Harris Administration. She will serve as the Acting Assistant Administrator for Water.



Mami Hara, Chair of the Board of Directors for the US Water Alliance, said: “The Board of Directors and staff at the US Water Alliance applaud President Biden for selecting Radhika for this important role at the EPA. Radhika has been a visionary leader at the US Water Alliance for the last five years, and she is the right leader to guide our nation’s water program at this uniquely volatile and critical time. Radhika brings a deep commitment to equity and inclusion in all that she does. She is also an expert consensus builder on complex environmental issues. We are excited for her to take on this even bigger and broader role in the water sector.”

Radhika Fox said: “It is an incredible honor and privilege to be selected by President Biden to serve our country. I am proud to join the EPA team of dedicated career professionals who have a long-standing commitment to protect public health and the environment. Water policy and investments can be a force for addressing the four compounding crises facing our nation—the global pandemic, economic recovery, racial equity, and the climate crisis. I stand ready to support this administration as we Build Back Better for every American.”

“The US Water Alliance is in great hands with a talented team of water professionals and top-notch board of directors. I am so proud of what we have done together to advance the One Water movement. With our dynamic member network, the US Water Alliance has forged positive change on critical issues facing the water sector—COVID-19 response and recovery, the value of water, infrastructure investment, integrated water management, equity, climate change, and so



much more. The US Water Alliance is poised for growth and will only increase its impact in the water sector in the coming years,” Fox concluded.

The Alliance Board of Directors will commence a national search for a new CEO. During the transition period, the organization will be led by the active engagement of a committed Board of Directors and talented staff.

###

#### **About the EPA’s Office of Water**

*The EPA’s Office of Water ensures drinking water is safe, and restores and maintains oceans, watersheds, and their aquatic ecosystems to protect human health, support economic and recreational activities, and provide healthy habitat for fish, plants and wildlife. The Office of Water is responsible for implementing key environmental regulations including the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act. The Office of Water administers key water infrastructure programs including the State Revolving Funds and the Water Infrastructure and Innovation Financing Act. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the Office of Water works with the ten EPA regional offices, other federal agencies, state and local governments, American Indian tribes, the regulated community, organized professional and interest groups, land owners and managers, and the public-at-large.*

#### **About US Water Alliance**

*US Water Alliance advances policies and programs to secure a sustainable water future for all. Established in 2008, the Alliance is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization that educates the nation on the true value of water, accelerates the adoption of One Water policies and programs, and celebrates innovation in water management. The Alliance brings together diverse interests to identify and advance common-ground, achievable solutions to our nation’s most pressing water challenges. Our membership includes water providers, public officials, business leaders, environmental organizations, community leaders, policy organizations, and more. Follow the US Water Alliance on Twitter and on LinkedIn.*

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# Kamala Harris says California's water crisis is a racial injustice. Will she champion equity?

[By Monica Vaughan](#)

January 21, 2021 05:00 AM, Updated January 21, 2021 11:36 AM

Residents in the San Joaquin Valley, California, are struggling with contaminated tap water with toxins like nitrate. Many of those affected are immigrant, low-income families. This special report was produced by Univision 21 and FresnoLand. By Nathalie Vera/Univision 21 Fresno | [mvaughan@fresnobee.com](mailto:mvaughan@fresnobee.com)

A month before she began campaigning for the second-highest political position in the United States, now-Vice President Kamala Harris briefly turned her attention to a small town with a big drinking water problem.

“Utterly unacceptable that in 2020, we still can’t guarantee clean water to communities across America. It’s a fundamental human right,” Harris said in a July 9 tweet about the town of Earlimart in California’s Central Valley. “We have the solutions to address this crisis. Congress just needs to act.”

Residents in the majority-Latino town had contaminated tap water after a 50-year-old well failed. They joined roughly 1 million other Californians with toxic tap water. People of color, including in farmworker communities and historically-Black communities, are disproportionately affected.

During the wave of Black Lives Matter protests against police brutality, she partnered with civil-rights leader Dolores Huerta to co-author “a fight for racial justice,” a call-to-action to address drinking water access and affordability.

“(In) 2020, the United States remains divided between those with the privilege of having clean, running tap water and those who don’t,” the op-ed stated. “As we reckon with systemic racism, our fight for safe and affordable water cannot be disentangled from the fight for justice.”

The women called for a \$1 trillion investment in water infrastructure to meet the country’s needs in the next 25 years, to address disparities remaining after a long history of decisions that failed certain residents.

“Racism is fueling disparities in access to safe water,” Harris and Huerta wrote in the July 2020 the op-ed, published by The Mercury News.

“Systemic barriers, including redlining, disinvestment, unregulated pollution and neglect of Tribal water rights stand in the way of safe and affordable water for millions of people, particularly Black, Indigenous and communities of color,” they said.

Water and wastewater systems are crumbling across the country, from arsenic-laden water in Pixley, California to Fountain, Colorado where [wastewater was leaching into a river](#), and lead poisoning from old pipes in Flint, Michigan.

Federal funding for drinking water infrastructure drastically declined over the last half-century. According to a state report released in February 2020, “the percentage of [federal support in infrastructure spending for water utilities has fallen from over 30% in the 1970s](#) to less than 5% in 2015.”

As a California senator, Harris proposed [the Water Justice Act, a bill to invest \\$220 billion in drinking water infrastructure](#) and establish a \$10 billion program to help states offset expensive water bills in low-income communities.

Californians’ need for financial assistance has only grown in the six months since that op-ed was published.

With record-breaking unemployment and reduced working hours because of the pandemic, residents’ water bills have piled up. The State Water Board estimates [Californians owe an estimated \\$1 billion water debt](#). Families are at risk of having their water shutoff or liens placed on their homes.

Old infrastructure is failing to deliver clean water and the pandemic could postpone potential fixes, according to a State Water Board report released Tuesday. Reduced revenue exacerbates the financial strain on small water systems that don’t have a customer base that can pay to build costly water treatment plants to filter out contamination.

Californians — mostly low income, many Black, Latino or Native American — can’t afford to pay for water that many can’t safely drink.

With Harris now sworn in as vice president, will she follow through with equitable solutions?

Advocates who work to bring clean and affordable drinking water to Californians are optimistic, but cautiously so.

“California just sent one of our own to the White House,” said Jonathan Nelson, policy director with Visalia-based Community Water Center.

The organization is pushing water justice as a key part of the recovery from COVID.

Water is basic PPE — you can't wash your hands without running water. Meeting the huge need for building water infrastructure will lead to jobs, often in the very same communities most hit by the COVID-19 economy, Nelson told The Fresno Bee.

“Drinking water investments is a channel, a pathway to economic recovery, especially in smaller and rural communities,” Nelson said.

Advocates are looking for federal assistance in two forms:

- Economic assistance for low-income residents faced with unpaid water bills
- Massive investment in water and wastewater infrastructure

Michael Claiborne, an attorney with Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability, said he is optimistic following the inauguration.

“I think there is at least the possibility that the federal government could invest in drinking water and wastewater infrastructure,” Claiborne said. “I think it's necessary. It's definitely needed.”

In addition, he pointed out that President Joe Biden has proposed an additional \$5 billion for water and energy assistance to renters as part of a broader \$30 billion rental assistance program.

The last relief package Congress passed in December included \$638 million for grants to states and Indian Tribes to assist low-income households pay water bills or for systems to reduce charges. California expects to get about 10% of that.

California's water crisis didn't happen overnight. Both Nelson and Claiborne said it won't be solved quickly.

“Will Harris be a champion for water justice?” I think that's the question,” Nelson said. “She certainly understands it, and she has an opportunity to be a champion for water justice.”

# Los Angeles Times

## Two Biden priorities, climate and conservation, collide in the California desert

Jan. 21, 2021

By [Sammy Roth](#), Staff Writer

The Trump administration left President Biden a dilemma in the California desert: a plan to remove protections from millions of acres of public lands and open vast areas to solar and wind farms.

Biden's team could easily block the proposed changes, which were slammed by conservationists as a last-gasp effort by the outgoing administration to support private industry at the expense of wildlife habitat and treasured landscapes.

But even if Trump's 11th-hour proposal goes nowhere, it offers a preview of the battles that could play out on public lands in California and other Western states as Biden looks to fight climate change by ramping up renewable energy development.

The newly inaugurated president campaigned on an aggressive goal of eliminating planet-warming pollution from the U.S. power grid by 2035. California put a similar 100% clean energy requirement into state law, with a deadline of 2045.

Meeting those targets will require dedicating huge amounts of land to solar and wind farms — a reality that has already led to tension in the Golden State, where renewable energy companies have sparred with conservationists for years over which areas should be open to development and which should be set aside to protect animals, plants and their habitat.

After four years during which President Trump and his appointees supported planet-warming fossil fuels and ignored the climate crisis, the Biden administration could bring those tensions back to the forefront.

On the one hand, Biden [endorsed](#) calls by scientists and activists to [protect 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030](#), an idea designed in part to give wildlife and plants enough space to roam and adapt as unnaturally rising temperatures wreak havoc on natural landscapes. Gov. Gavin Newsom [embraced](#) a "30 by 30" target in California as well.

On the other hand, California's [record-shattering fire season](#) — which continued into January, with intense winds and dry weather [fueling new ignitions](#) this week — called attention to the need for more solar and wind farms to replace the coal- and gas-burning power plants fueling the climate crisis.

“We need more land, and we need projects sited soon,” said Shannon Eddy, executive director of the Large-scale Solar Assn., a Sacramento-based trade group. “We need to be moving much more quickly to site these projects and get the state off gas.”

The Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan was supposed to help resolve those tensions — at least across more than 10 million acres of federal lands in California, where desert tortoises, bighorn sheep and golden eagles move across terrain marked by Joshua trees, salt flats and jutting mountains, from the U.S.-Mexico border to the Owens Valley.

First proposed by then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2008, and completed during the final months of the Obama administration in 2016, the plan [designated](#) 6.5 million acres for conservation and about 400,000 acres for clean-energy projects. But the plan was quickly reopened by the Trump administration, which [announced in early 2018](#) that it would consider sweeping changes.

After three years of radio silence, the federal Bureau of Land Management [announced](#) proposed changes last week.

The agency would remove protections from 2.2 million acres of “national conservation lands” and 1.8 million acres of “critical environmental concern,” although some of those lands are shielded from development in other ways. The agency would also modify or eliminate dozens of “conservation management actions” that require developers to reduce the environmental impacts of their projects.

Defenders of Wildlife, a nonprofit advocacy group, said iconic desert areas losing protection [would include](#) giant Joshua trees at Pipes Canyon near Pioneertown, Native American petroglyphs at [Black Mountain](#) north of Barstow and lands along stretches of the Amargosa River that are designated as a [national wild and scenic river](#) corridor.

“They’re taking something that was woven together very carefully, and they’re yanking important threads of it out,” said Kim Delfino, a consultant to Defenders of Wildlife who offered extensive input on the California desert plan.

Renewable energy companies were [frustrated by the original plan](#), saying it took too much land off the table and added onerous environmental rules. The wind industry in particular embraced the Trump administration’s attempted do-over, saying the desert plan had closed off some of the last areas in California where new onshore wind farms would be commercially viable.

“I understand the tendency will be for California to reject out of hand anything coming from the Trump administration. But even a broken clock is right a couple times a day,” said Nancy Rader, executive director of the California Wind Energy Assn.

The Trump administration’s changes would allow solar and wind farms on 800,000 acres currently closed to energy development, about half of which were supposed to be set aside for off-roading and other desert recreation. The proposal wouldn’t expand any of the “development focus areas” where renewable energy projects can receive streamlined environmental permits.

Outgoing federal officials said the changes would support California's interim goal of 60% renewable energy by 2030. They also took a dig at the Golden State's plan to phase out fossil fuels, suggesting without offering evidence that their proposal would help Californians avoid a repeat of the [brief rolling blackouts](#) the state experienced over two evenings in August.

"As trusted forms of energy production are eliminated in California, large expanses of desert landscape will be needed to bring alternatives online to avoid blackouts and new constraints on the grid," Casey Hammond, the Interior Department's principal deputy assistant secretary for land and minerals, said in a written statement last week.

Conservationists were skeptical from the beginning that the Trump administration really wanted to support clean energy through the desert plan. Now, looking at the proposed changes, they suspect the big winners would actually be mining companies.

Chris Clarke, California desert program manager for the National Parks Conservation Assn., said the removal of protections from tens of thousands of acres in Panamint Valley, just outside Death Valley National Park, might benefit an Australian company that has been [drilling exploratory wells in search of lithium](#). Similarly, the Trump plan would remove protections from big chunks of land near the Mountain Pass mine off Interstate 15 by the Nevada state line, the [only major U.S. producer of rare-earth metals](#).

Lithium mining offers yet another example of the tension between tackling climate change and protecting nature. The metal is a key ingredient in the batteries that power electric cars and store solar power for use after sundown.

"We are strongly in favor of decarbonizing the grid, and that means taking our vehicle fleet off of fossil fuels, and that means we need lithium for batteries until we find something else that works," Clarke said. "But there are clearly ways to explore for lithium ... that aren't in intact habitat adjacent to national parks."

There are also places to put solar and wind installations besides intact habitat, including [Central Valley farmland with dwindling water supplies](#) and, for wind turbines, [floating offshore platforms](#). And there are plenty of obstacles to development besides land-use restrictions, including a [lack of transmission lines](#) to carry electricity to distant cities and [opposition from rural landowners](#).

But one way or another, avoiding the worst consequences of climate change — including ever-rising temperatures and worsening fires, droughts, storms and floods — will require the construction of renewable energy facilities covering huge amounts of land.

A study [released last month](#) by Princeton University found that achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 — the long-term target urged by climate scientists and endorsed by Biden — might require the United States to build solar panels and wind turbines across more than 225,000 square miles of land, an area significantly larger than California.

The study assumes that 2,000 to 3,000 gigawatts of solar- and wind-power facilities will be needed. Even with a more favorable outlook for rooftop solar — a technology preferred by those who don't want to see big power projects in the desert — the country [would still need 1,500 gigawatts of large-scale renewables](#), according to a recent study funded by rooftop solar advocates.

As frustrated as the solar industry was by the original California desert plan, Eddy said she has come to believe that this kind of comprehensive planning may be needed to balance clean energy and conservation, and that road bumps are inevitable.

“This is trial-and-error territory. Nobody had ever done this before,” she said. “Maybe now we're ready.”

The desert plan isn't the only place where the tension between conservation and climate action has played out.

Last summer, California solar companies [objected to a proposal](#) to grant state-level endangered species protections to western Joshua trees, saying that would further limit development in the desert. Razing a small number of Joshua trees to build more solar farms, they argued, would actually be good for the species because climate change [poses a serious threat to the trees](#).

State officials [protected the species](#), but with an exemption that would allow 15 shovel-ready solar projects to raze Joshua trees.

For Biden, balancing climate action and conservation probably will be a central issue in the American West, where the Bureau of Land Management oversees nearly 250 million acres that are home to some of the country's most consistent sunlight and wind.

The new president's [climate plan](#) calls for more renewable energy on federal lands, and the [government spending bill](#) approved by Congress last month set a national target of approving 25 gigawatts of renewables on federal lands by 2025. Still, there's a difference between approving projects and building them. The Obama administration bragged that it approved 60 clean-energy facilities capable of powering as many as 5 million homes, but those numbers [dramatically overstated](#) what actually got built.

One possible clue to the Biden administration's strategy on public lands: The president's [newly announced](#) nominee for deputy Interior secretary, Elizabeth Klein, is a former Obama administration official who once described the California desert plan as “a potential model that we could export to other places in the country.”

“Here's how you can move forward with your project in a way that can still conserve and protect the environmental and cultural values that are in the California desert,” Klein said at a state government [hearing](#) in 2014, before the plan was finalized.



Still, it's hard to know for sure how Biden's team will handle the Trump administration's proposed changes to the California desert plan, which were [issued as a draft](#) with a 90-day public comment period and could easily be rescinded.

The new administration's decision may depend on who it chooses to listen to. Although renewable energy trade groups consider the desert plan a failure, conservationists and California officials say it's largely working, even though only a handful of solar farms — and no wind farms — have been proposed in the development zones so far.

“We never expected public lands in the desert to supply all of our renewable energy needs, or even necessarily most of our renewable energy needs,” said Karen Douglas, a member of the California Energy Commission who helped write the plan.

Although some changes might be helpful to better balance development and conservation, Douglas added, “this particular document that was dropped in by the Trump administration at the last minute isn't the right starting point at all.”

Supporters of the desert plan point out that even though solar and wind developers weren't happy with the final outcome, none of them sued to block its implementation. They see that as a reason for the Biden administration to tread lightly.

“Overall in the desert, we've reached a detente with a very broad range of competing interests,” said Randy Banis, an off-road vehicle enthusiast who spent years offering input on how the desert plan might affect recreation. “I'd like to see that detente remain in place. We haven't been fighting each other for four years, until just now.”

## **INFRAMARK TO OPERATE NEW DESALTER | Camarillo approves \$11 million contract**

Jan 20, 2021

by Kimberly Rivers [kimberly@vcreporter.com](mailto:kimberly@vcreporter.com)



Pictured: The new North Pleasant Valley Desalter Facility is designed to mitigate increasing salt levels in groundwater. Image from Camarillo staff report.

On Jan. 13, the Camarillo City Council approved a five-year contract with Inframark LLC for operations of the new North Pleasant Valley Desalter Facility project, located near the junction of Las Posas Road and Lewis Road, slated to be in operation by the end of this year.

According to the city staff presentation, the project once fully operational is designed to treat 4,500 acre-feet per year of “brackish” groundwater yielding 3,800 acre feet per year of usable water, roughly 40% of the city’s water needs. City reports say the facility will allow a currently unused source of water to be used, and will double the city’s water supply using reverse osmosis technology.

Camarillo sees the project as an important solution the growing problem of saltwater in groundwater aquifers and the desalting process will, according to the city, stop the “salt plume from spreading to the main portion of the Pleasant Valley [groundwater] basin.”

The facility will remove salt from water with salt content that is too high for drinking water. The waste product will be pumped via an existing brine pipeline, the Calleguas Regional Salinity Management Pipeline (SMP), and discharged into the ocean at Port Hueneme. That pipeline already services several desalters in Simi Valley, Moorpark and the Camrosa Water District in the Santa Rosa Valley.

Inframark LLC has offices in Texas and Pennsylvania and according to the company’s website operates water facilities in 19 states. For the two-phase contract, Inframark will assist with the coordination of the final construction phase of the facility, as well as the start up, testing and state permitting, and then oversee all ongoing operations.

The contract includes an initial requirement of 24-hour staffing of the facility for the first year, and then a proposal that, if approved by the city, the staffing could be reduced to a single eight-hour shift. The total cost for the five-year contract, with approval of the single eight-hour shift, is \$8,827,000. If the city requires 24-hour staffing the total five-year cost is \$11,415,942.

The city will pay for electricity, chemicals and operation of the supply wells in addition to the staffing.

The total project cost is just under \$70 million, with about \$26.4 million coming from state and federal grants. An additional \$40 million is funded by local water funds and a revenue bond. Overall the city reports that the project will save nearly \$50 million over 20 years of operations, which is the difference in the cost of water from the state.

Camarillo completed the facility design in 2018 and it is currently being built by Fresno-based, W.M. Lyles Co. Construction has been underway for more than a year. According to the California Natural Resources Agency, the original plan was for the desalter to be operational by spring 2020.

The Camarillo City Water system serves two-thirds of city residents.



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 12, 2021

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916-416-4309 (cell)

[Sanford.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Sanford.Nax@dtsc.ca.gov)

## **California to Tire Makers: Please Remove Harmful Chemicals that Threaten our Aquatic Life and Waterways**

**SACRAMENTO** – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today put tire manufacturers on notice that California wants them to explore alternatives to using zinc, a toxic chemical that harms aquatic life and burdens waterways.

Zinc helps make rubber stronger, but also wears off tire tread and washes into storm drains, streams, rivers and lakes, threatening California fish and other aquatic organisms. [DTSC](#), the State's department missioned to work toward safer California households, workplaces, and products, intends to use its innovative [Safer Consumer Products](#) (SCP) program to work with tire makers to look for an alternative to this harmful chemical. The SCP program seeks to remove toxic chemicals from products before they're sold to consumers. This is more efficient and effective than issuing bans later, and, in this case, helps stormwater agencies cost-effectively meet state and federal water-quality requirements.

"Zinc is toxic to aquatic life and has been detected at high levels in many waterways," said DTSC Director Meredith Williams. "Stormwater agencies make a compelling case for studying ways to control that. The Safer Consumer Products process compels manufacturers to identify alternatives that would control this pollution at the source."

The Safer Consumer Products program has worked to remove flame retardants in children's sleeping products, methylene chloride in paint strippers, chemicals in certain types of spray foam insulation systems, and is currently evaluating a wide variety of other hazardous chemicals to reduce exposure to human health and environment.

In this case, the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) petitioned DTSC to use the Safer Consumer Products program as a vehicle for reducing the amount of zinc getting into waterways.

The association cited several studies in its 68-page [petition](#), including findings by the State Water Board that zinc frequently exceeds water-quality standards in water bodies. The petition also states that even low concentrations of zinc are potentially harmful to aquatic life and asserts

that reducing or eliminating zinc in tires is the most cost-effective way of reducing zinc in stormwater.

DTSC will now start preparing a technical document for release in the spring and will [solicit input](#) from industry and the public prior to initiating rulemaking. If DTSC chooses to regulate zinc in tires, manufacturers will have to conduct an [Alternatives Analysis](#) to determine if there is a substitute that is safe for the environment and public health while still meeting performance and safety requirements.

DTSC's announcement follows the release of a [study](#) (link opens new window) by University of Washington and Washington State University researchers that shows a link between Coho salmon deaths and a chemical (6PPD) used to prevent the breakdown of tires. Further research on the adverse impacts of 6PPD will be explored as part of DTSC's engagement with tire manufacturers for this project.

# # #

FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov). To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.



## Industry Groups Urge New Administration to Address Water Infrastructure

January 12, 2021 [Agri-Business](#), [Water](#)



A large group of agricultural organizations and water districts are calling for more federal support to address water infrastructure. More than 200 organizations sent letters to President-elect Joe Biden and congressional leadership, highlighting water issues in the West. The coalition points out the significant need for federal support in any future infrastructure or economic recovery package. Much of the Western water infrastructure is more than 50 years old and is in dire need of upgrades.

“While many think of infrastructure in terms of highways, bridges and other transportation facilities, there is an equally compelling need for federal investment in water infrastructure across the West,” Western Growers President and CEO Dave Puglia [said in a press release](#). “Meaningful and timely federal investment in water infrastructure, along with a regulatory system that prioritizes efficiency and completion of projects, is necessary to preserve our farms and strengthen our rural communities in the West.”

The coalition notes several priority areas that would benefit from federal support. Water conservation, watershed management, and habitat restoration are listed as recommended actions. The group also explains the need for new water storage facilities and federal financing options to make them possible. Addressing the regulatory constraints for water projects will also be needed to ensure timely construction. The coalition is also advocating for more water recycling and desalination investment along with funding support for local districts overseeing federal irrigation projects.

President-elect Biden and Congress are being urged to consider the consequences of failing to act on water infrastructure needs. Investing in upgrades for Western water need is vital for keeping agricultural production viable and ensuring the safety of water supplies for communities. Signatories of the letters include Western Growers, American Farm Bureau Federation, California Citrus Mutual, Groundwater Management Districts Association, and California Fresh Fruit Association. Altogether, the coalition represents nearly one-third of all agricultural production in the U.S. and tens of millions of water users.



January 11, 2021

The Honorable Joe Biden  
Biden-Harris Transition Team

Dear President-elect Biden:

As you consider further economic stimulus measures during the 117<sup>th</sup> session of Congress to help our country recover from the negative impacts of COVID-19, we urge that you address the shortcomings of our aging Western agricultural and rural water infrastructure in any future infrastructure or recovery package. We represent thousands of Western farmers, ranchers, water providers, businesses and communities who provide the food our nation relies upon through use of millions of acres of productive land, as well as many of the local and regional public water agencies that supply water to over fifty million Western urban, suburban and rural residents. Our organizations collectively believe that federal investment in a diversified water management portfolio is essential. Such a portfolio MUST be included as essential infrastructure in the next infrastructure or recovery package.

The American West's farmers and ranchers have responded to COVID-19 by developing new ways to grow the nation's food supply while protecting workers on the frontlines, and keeping the nation fed. But the COVID-19 crisis, as with all industries, has revealed weaknesses in agriculture that must be addressed. Our nation clearly needs a stable domestic food supply that both nourishes Americans and safeguards national security. Food security is an issue everyone should be taking more seriously. We cannot wait until the supermarket shelves are empty to take action to protect our ability to feed ourselves and much of the world.

Our nation's water suppliers are also critical service providers. Agricultural and municipal water providers have worked tirelessly throughout the COVID-19 crisis to provide uninterrupted water service and wastewater treatment for irrigation, major cities, at risk communities, and businesses.

To ensure that food can continue to be safely and affordably produced in the West, and that communities, large and small, continue to have access to the water critical to their economies and their health, our organizations believe that critical water supply and wastewater treatment reliability improvements must be included as a necessary part of any federal infrastructure investment. Providing a stable water future for the West will also strengthen our rural communities who often struggle to address water quantity and quality challenges. Beyond longer-term impacts to the West, these infrastructure projects would also bring vital construction jobs which will greatly benefit rural communities impacted by COVID-19 in their efforts to recover. Nationwide, we believe American jobs will also benefit as equipment and materials for these water projects will be provided by American firms.

It has never been more critical that our country prioritize the initial and continual investment in Western water infrastructure necessary to meet current and future demands. Existing water and wastewater infrastructure in the West is aging, as most of the federal water infrastructure projects that

benefit our Western communities, from the largest cities to the smallest farms, were built more than 50 years ago. Now, they are in desperate need of rehabilitation and improvement.

In addition, as hydrological conditions in the West change and populations expand, the impacts from our failure to address aging water infrastructure has become increasingly acute, raising serious questions about the system's continued viability without immediate attention. By investing in improvements to water infrastructure and expanding useable supplies today, we believe the nation can prevent a breakdown in the water supply and irrigation systems across the landscape, which could avoid further shortening of supplies and the potential for increased conflict over water supplies.

Pressure is growing to 'solve' current urban and environmental water shortages by simply moving water away from Western irrigated agriculture. If this continues, we will see rising conflict between agricultural, rural, urban and environmental stakeholders, as well as a further decline in our national food security. A visionary bipartisan federal infrastructure package should seek to bolster our aging water infrastructure to keep water flowing to our nation's farms and ranches simultaneous to making improvements for cities and the environment.

Our organizations collectively believe that federal investment in water conservation, water recycling, watershed management, conveyance, desalination, water transfers, groundwater storage, and surface storage is urgently needed for a diversified water management portfolio and that such a portfolio MUST be included as essential infrastructure in the next infrastructure or recovery package. Specific recommended actions include:

- Water conservation, one of the most cost-effective actions that can positively affect water supply stability, needs to continue to be aggressively pursued in conjunction with new water storage and other actions.
- New funding will be needed to kick-start new water recycling, reuse and desalination projects currently being studied or that are ready for construction.
- Additional funding should support new reservoir facilities and operations at existing dams to address climate change risks.
- Programs that fund water conservation and management improvements, fish passage and recovery, and habitat restoration - all in support of water project operations in the Reclamation states of the West, are in need of additional funding to accelerate construction of this "ready-to-go" infrastructure. Bipartisan legislation, including the *Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act*, among others, lay out a comprehensive vision for how multiple objectives like this can be achieved.
- Environmentally and hydrologically sound investments in new water storage – both surface water and groundwater in order to adapt to a changing hydrology and develop usable and sustainable supplies to meet growing demands for water. We believe that water storage projects should be geared to local circumstances and needs. In some cases, storage projects will be

above ground, in others they will be below ground. Additionally, some will be traditional construction using American steel and concrete, while others will be ‘green’ natural infrastructure projects - all dependent on the wide variety of local needs in place across the West.

- The federal government must remain an active financial partner and expand its involvement in finding 21<sup>st</sup> century solutions to these water problems in the West. It can do so, either through direct funding to help meet these needs or by developing and expanding federal financing mechanisms (such as the EPA’s *Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act*) that have a very low cost to the Treasury and to taxpayers. Future tax legislation should preserve tax-exempt financing and also restore the ability to issue tax-exempt advance refunding bonds.
- Additional federal funding for affordable long-term loans from the Bureau of Reclamation to local districts operating and maintaining federally-owned irrigation projects. These local entities are in need of affordable financing for immediate extraordinary repairs and rehabilitation on their federally-owned canals and water delivery structures as was highlighted in the bipartisan *Water Supply Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Utilization Act*. Most, if not all, of these major construction projects are ready to proceed if direct financing was made available. In short, water resource infrastructure investments should be made more attractive and affordable for the non-federal entities responsible for maintaining these critical facilities.
- Water quality challenges are also critical factors in many communities across the rural West. Many of these challenges can be positively impacted by the proposals above. As an example, an increase in water supply flowing to rural communities can help stabilize water needs. New supplies can be recharged into aquifers, which can help improve underlying water quality. This is especially important in rural areas where groundwater aquifers have been significantly depleted and water levels are critical. Often those communities are faced with the twin challenge of not having enough water for their needs and the water they have being of poor quality. Enhanced water supplies, environmental projects and new conveyance systems can help provide water as well as help recharge depleted aquifers, which in turn help improve rural communities’ water quantity and quality over time.
- Beyond monetary assistance, the federal government should also bring forward policy changes that help ensure that water projects are built in a timely fashion. Making funding available for projects is useless if projects take decades to be approved. In the past, Congress has, on a bipartisan basis, put forward significant efforts to improve the efficiency of environmental regulation and permitting processes for other types of infrastructure development. Water infrastructure should not be treated any differently and any infrastructure package should address this concern by streamlining the regulations and permitting processes for water projects. Commonsense process improvements were included in the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* and can be used as a model for success, as well as others, to ensure timely construction of projects.

- Finally, in order to respond to current and future water shortages, Congress must also encourage federal agencies to implement a more cooperative approach toward achieving multiple goals under existing environmental laws and regulations. And, where such approaches are currently in law, Congress should encourage these agencies to use any and all flexibilities under the law to act with the urgency and promptness that this crisis demands.

As you are already aware, water infrastructure investments not only provide immediate short-term economic benefits and create jobs – vital to a nation facing massive job loss – they are the foundation that the economy will need for the foreseeable future.

If and when additional infrastructure funding is discussed as part of a larger economic stimulus package, we need your help to ensure that federal dollars flow and timely improvements are constructed to our nation’s critical aging water infrastructure needs.

We look forward to working with you to address this critical need and national security interest.

Sincerely,

A&B Irrigation District (ID)  
 Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona  
 Almond Alliance of California  
 American AgCredit  
 American Agri-Women  
 American Farm Bureau Federation  
 American Farmland Trust  
 Arnold Irrigation District (OR)  
 Arizona Cattle Feeders Association  
 Arizona Cotton Growers Association  
 Arizona Farm and Ranch Group  
 Arizona Farm Bureau  
 Association of California Water Agencies  
 Biggs-West Gridley Water District (CA)  
 Black Canyon Irrigation District (ID)  
 Boise-Kuna Irrigation District (ID)  
 Browns Valley Irrigation District (CA)  
 Butte Water District (CA)  
 California Agricultural Irrigation Association  
 California Alfalfa & Forage Association  
 California Apple Commission  
 California Association of Wheat Growers  
 California Avocado Commission  
 California Bean Shippers Association  
 California Blueberry Association  
 California Blueberry Commission  
 California Cattlemen’s Association

California Citrus Mutual  
 California Cotton Alliance  
 California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assoc.  
 California Farm Bureau  
 California Farm Water Coalition  
 California Fresh Fruit Association  
 California State Floral Association  
 California Grain & Feed Association  
 California Seed Association  
 California State Beekeepers Association  
 California Walnut Commission  
 California Warehouse Association  
 California Water Alliance  
 California Water Service  
 California Women for Agriculture  
 Carlsbad Irrigation District (NM)  
 Central California Irrigation District  
 Central Arizona  
     Irrigation and Drainage District  
 Central Nebraska  
     Public Power and Irrigation District  
 Central Oregon Irrigation District  
 Central Utah Water Conservancy District  
 Central Valley Project Water Association (CA)  
 Charleston Drainage District (CA)  
 City of Shasta Lake (CA)  
 CoBank

Colorado Farm Bureau  
 Colorado Potato Administrative Committee  
 Colorado  
     Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association  
 Colorado River  
     Energy Distributors Association  
 Colorado River District (CO)  
 Colorado Water Congress  
 Columbia Basin Development League (WA)  
 Columbia Canal Company (CA)  
 Del Puerto Water District (CA)  
 Deschutes Basin Board of Control (OR)  
 Dolores Water Conservancy District (CO)  
 Dunnigan Water District (CA)  
 Eagle Field Water District (CA)  
 East Columbia Basin Irrigation District (WA)  
 Eastern Municipal Water District (CA)  
 Electrical District #3 of Pinal County (AZ)  
 Elephant Butte Irrigation District (NM)  
 Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (CA)  
 Family Farm Alliance  
 Family Water Alliance (CA)  
 Farm Credit Council  
 Farmers Conservation Alliance (OR)  
 Farwell Irrigation District (NE)  
 Far West Equipment Dealers Association  
 Fremont-Madison Irrigation District (ID)  
 Fresno Madera Farm Credit, ACA (CA)  
 Friant Water Authority (CA)  
 Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (ND)  
 Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (CA)  
 Groundwater Management Districts Assoc.  
 Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara  
     and San Luis Obispo Counties (CA)  
 Hawaii Farm Bureau  
 Idaho Dairywomen's Association  
 Idaho Farm Bureau  
 Idaho Potato Commission  
 Idaho Water Resources Research Institute  
 Idaho Water Users Association  
 Imperial Irrigation District (CA)  
 Imperial Valley  
     Vegetable Growers Association (CA)  
 Irrigation & Electrical Districts Association  
     of Arizona

Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District  
 Kansas Water Congress  
 King Hill Irrigation District (ID)  
 Kings River Conservation District (CA)  
 Kittitas County Farm Bureau (WA)  
 Kittitas Reclamation District. (WA)  
 Kittitas County Timothy Hay  
     Growers & Suppliers (WA)  
 Klamath Irrigation District (OR)  
 Klamath Water Users Association (OR)  
 Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation District (CA)  
 Little Snake River Conservation District (WY)  
 Little Snake River  
     Water Conservancy District (WY)  
 Maricopa-Stanfield  
     Irrigation & Drainage District (AZ)  
 McKinleyville  
 Community Services District (CA)  
 Mercy Springs Water District (CA)  
 Meridian Farms Water Company (CA)  
 Modesto Irrigation District (CA)  
 Montana Farm Bureau  
 Montana Water Resources Association  
 Monterey One Water (CA)  
 Monterey Peninsula  
     Water Management District (CA)  
 Nampa & Meridian Irrigation District (ID)  
 National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
 National Onion Association  
 National Pecan Federation  
 National Water Resources Association  
 Natomas Mutual Water Company (CA)  
 Nebraska Farm Bureau  
 Nevada Farm Bureau Federation  
 Nevada Irrigation District (CA)  
 New Magma  
     Irrigation and Drainage District (AZ)  
 New Mexico Chile Association  
 New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau  
 Niobrara Conservation District (WY)  
 North Dakota Water Users Association  
 Northern California Water Association  
 Northern Water (CO)  
 North Side Canal Company (ID)  
 North Unit Irrigation District (OR)  
 Ochoco Irrigation District (OR)

Olive Growers Council of California  
 Orange Cove Irrigation District (CA)  
 Oregon Association of Nurseries  
 Oregon Farm Bureau  
 Oregon Potato Commission  
 Oregon Water Resources Congress  
 Orland Unit Water Users Association (CA)  
 Pacific Egg and Poultry Association  
 Panoche Drainage District (CA)  
 Panoche Water District (CA)  
 Patterson Irrigation District (CA)  
 Pioneer Irrigation District (ID)  
 Portneuf Irrigating Company (ID)  
 Pot Hook Water Conservancy District (CO)  
 Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrig. District (CA)  
 Provident Irrigation District (CA)  
 Public Lands Council  
 Queen Creek Irrigation District (AZ)  
 Quincy-Columbia Basin  
     Irrigation District (WA)  
 Reclamation District No. 108 (CA)  
 Reclamation District 1500 (CA)  
 Richvale Irrigation District (CA)  
 River Garden Farms (CA)  
 Rocky Mountain Farmers Union  
 Roza Irrigation District (WA)  
 Roza-Sunnyside Joint Board of Control (WA)  
 Rubicon Water (facilities in CA and CO)  
 Sacramento River  
     Settlement Contractors Corporation (CA)  
 San Carlos  
     Irrigation and Drainage District (AZ)  
 San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors  
     Water Authority (CA)  
 San Juan Water District (CA)  
 San Luis & Delta-Mendota  
     Water Authority (CA)  
 San Luis Canal Company (CA)  
 Salt River Project (AZ)  
 Sargent Irrigation District (NE)

Solano Irrigation District (CA)  
 South Columbia Basin Irrigation District (WA)  
 Southeastern Colorado  
     Water Conservancy District  
 Southwestern Water  
     Conservation District (CO)  
 Southwest Kansas  
     Groundwater Management District No. 3  
 South Valley Water Association (CA)  
 South Yuba Water District (CA)  
 Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District (WA)  
 Sutter Extension Water District (CA)  
 Sutter Mutual Water Company (CA)  
 Swalley Irrigation District (OR)  
 Tehama Colusa Canal Authority (CA)  
 Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (NV)  
 Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (CA)  
 Tulelake Irrigation District (CA)  
 Tumalo Irrigation District (OR)  
 Turlock Irrigation District (CA)  
 United Potato Growers of America  
 United Water Conservation District (CA)  
 Utah Farm Bureau  
 Ventura County Agricultural Association (CA)  
 Washington Farm Bureau  
 Washington State Potato Commission  
 Washington State Water Resources Association  
 WaterReuse Association  
 Weber Basin Water Conservancy District (UT)  
 Wellton-Mohawk  
     Irrigation and Drainage District (AZ)  
 Western Agricultural Processors Association  
 Western Canal Water District (CA)  
 Western Growers Association  
 Western Urban Water Coalition  
 Wyoming Farm Bureau  
 Yakima Basin Joint Board (WA)  
 Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District (WA)  
 Yosemite Farm Credit (CA)  
 Yuba Water Agency (CA)