

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

Wednesday, May 12, 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

Meeting number: 126 404 6142 Password: Direct (347328 from phones)

Join by phone (audio only) +1-408-418-9388 (toll rates apply)

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

Page 2

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 <u>Resolution 2021-10</u> Consider Amending the General Manager's Total Compensation Package Including Any Step Increase, Performance Merit Pay, and Other Compensation

Motion

The Board will consider adopting <u>Resolution 2021-10</u>, approving an amendment to the General Manager's compensation package, including 1) a performance merit pay of seven and one half percent (7.5%) of his FY 2020-2021 salary and 2) a step increase to step 4 of the Tier One Management salary schedule, as well as 3) other compensation amendments, as deemed appropriate by the Board.

2.8 Scheduling AB 1825 Harassment Prevention and AB 1234 Ethics Training for Board Members

Motion

The Board of Directors will consider whether 1) to participate in on-demand online instruction or live training, and, if live training is preferred, 2) select a date for the Special Board Meeting to facilitate this required training.

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 April 14, 2021.

B. Groundwater Basin Status Reports

Information Item

Receive and file Monthly Hydrologic Conditions Report for the District.

C. Monthly Investment Report (March 2021)

Information Item

The Board will receive and review the Districts' investment portfolio and cash position as of March 31, 2021.

D. Third Quarter FY 2020-21 Financial Report and Budget Amendments <u>Motion</u>

The Board will receive and review the FY 2020-21 Third Quarter Financial Report for the period of July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 and approve the proposed modifications to the FY 2020-21 Budget.

4. MOTION ITEMS (By Department)

4.1 **PUBLIC HEARING**

Continuation of Annual Groundwater Hearing to Accept Comment on Groundwater Conditions within the District

In accordance with the District's principal act in the California Water Code, the Board annually conducts a public hearing to consider the conditions of groundwater resources within the District. An "Annual Investigation and Report of Groundwater Conditions" was submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board on March 30, 2021 and has been available for public review and comment. This Public Hearing was initially opened at the April 14, 2021 Board of Directors meeting and was continued to the regular May 2021 Board meeting and will again be continued to the June 2021 Board meeting.

At this meeting, staff will give a report on current groundwater conditions, and members of the public will be permitted to give testimony. At its June 9, 2021 meeting, the Board may choose to close the hearing and consider the establishment of zones and the levying of groundwater extraction charges in those zones.

Public comment will be accepted at this time.

This hearing will be continued until Wednesday, June 9, 2021. No Board decisions will be made until the final hearing on June 9, 2021.

Administration Services – Joseph Jereb

4.2 FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget Workshop Motion

Staff will present an overview and discuss with the Board issues concerning the <u>Proposed FY 2021-22 District Budget</u>. Pertinent information with respect to the budget will be discussed. The Board may provide guidance and direction on various budget issues and recommendations. However, the Board will not consider adoption of the District budget until its June 9, 2021 Regular Board Meeting. The overview will consist of:

- Introduction and review related to the development of the proposed budget, reserve needs, corresponding rates to be charged, the budget process and related issues.
- Review of Capital Improvement Plan and recommended funding for FY 2021-22.
- Additional information in connection with and in support of the proposed FY 2021-22 Budget and the District's groundwater extraction charges.
- Questions from the Board
- Public Comments/Questions
- Board direction to staff
- Next steps for completing the District budget for FY 2021-22

Engineering Department – Dr. Maryam Bral

4.3 PUBLIC HEARING

For the Purpose of Receiving Public Comment and Discussion of the Proposed 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the Water Shortage Contingency Plan for the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline Motion

The Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving public comment and discussion of the proposed 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the Water Shortage Contingency Plan for the Oxnard Hueneme (OH) Pipeline System.

4.4 Resolution 2021-09 Approving CEQA Notice of Categorical Exemption Determination for the Emergency Power Supply for UWCD Drinking Water Treatment and Supply Facilities Project Motion

The Board will consider adopting <u>Resolution 2021-09</u>, approving the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of categorical exemption determination for the Emergency Power Supply for UWCD Drinking Water Treatment and Supply Facilities Project at the three (3) project locations and allowing staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Ventura County Clerk and Recorder's Office.

5. PRESENTATIONS AND MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS (By Department)

Administrative Services Department - Joseph Jereb and Josh Perez

5.1 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report – Joseph Jereb and Josh

Perez

Information Item

Staff report and presentation to the Board 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, 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

5.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report

Information Item

Staff report and presentation to the Board 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

5.3 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report

Information Item

Staff report and presentation to the Board on environmental and regulatory issues of note to the District, including 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, and any interactions with Rancho Temescal and Rancho Camulos.

Operation and Maintenance Department - Brian Collins

5.4 Monthly Operation and Maintenance Department Report

Information Item

Summary report 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

5.5 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report

Information Item

Summary report regarding operations and items of note relative to the Lake Piru Recreation Area. Items may include, but are not limited to, 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

5.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report

Information Item

Summary report regarding monthly Water Resources Department activities. Department activities include, but are not limited to, updates to the Ventura Regional Groundwater Flow Model; brackish water treatment feasibility study; upper Santa Clara River Chloride TMDL; hydrologic and well conditions statewide and locally; available Forebay storage; Ventura County well ordinance update; Fox Canyon GMA issues; City of Oxnard's recycled water program; potential water supply and recycled water projects, including use of United's terminal reservoirs; and user groups (including but not limited to Oxnard Plain and Pumping Trough Pipeline groups).

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

Information Item

Summary report regarding 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 the 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.

6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS READING FILE

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Board will adjourn to the Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 9, 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 of make riate arrangements.

Approved:

Assistant General Manager Anthony Emmert

Posted: (date) May 6, 2021 (time) 10:00a.m.

(attest) Kris Sofley

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

Posted: (date) May 6, 2021

(time) 10:30a.m.

(attest) Kris Sofley

At: www.unitedwater.org

EXHIBIT A EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION AGENDA

1. PERSONNEL MATTERS

1.1 Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code 54957) Title: General Manager

2. LITIGATION

2.1 Conference with Legal Counsel-Anticipated Litigation
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), one (1) case.

2.2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

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

- A. <u>City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District, et al</u>, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI00401714
- B. <u>City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District, et al</u>, Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. 1414739 (consolidated for purposes of trial with case in subsection A.)

Note: 2.2 A and B consolidated in the California Supreme Court, 2nd 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. <u>City of San Buenaventura v. United Water Conservation District, et al,</u> 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 Stiegemeyer, 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

To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

From: Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

Date: May 5, 2021 (May 12, 2021 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 2.5 Board Communication

Information Item

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

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-10:13am)

03- Recreation (9am-9:34am)

04- Engineering and Operations (9am-9:48am)

09- Finance and Audit (9am-9:52am)

10- Board Meeting (12noon-3:08pm)

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 (canceled)

03- Recreation (9am-9:34am)

04- Engineering and Operations (9:04am-10:03am)

09- Finance and Audit (9am-10:03am)

10- Board Meeting (12noon-3:10pm)

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 (canceled)

05- Legislative and Outreach (canceled)

07- Recreation (9am)

12- Water Resources (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 (canceled)

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)

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.

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

^{*} Indicates change from typical event date



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

Date: May 5, 2021 (May 12, 2021 meeting)

Agenda Item: 2.6 General Manager's Report

Information Item

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

From: Josh Perez, Human Resources Manager

Date: April 27, 2021 (May 12, 2021 meeting)

Agenda Item: 2.7 Resolution 2021-10 Amending the General Manager's Contract to

Include A Step Increase, Performance Merit Pay, and Other

Compensation

Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will consider adopting <u>Resolution 2021-10</u>, approving an amendment to the General Manager's compensation package, including 1) a performance merit pay of seven and one half percent (7.5%) of his FY 2020-2021 salary and 2) a step increase to step 4 of the Tier One Management salary schedule, as well as 3) other compensation amendments, as deemed appropriate by the Board.

Discussion:

The Executive Committee met on April 26, 2021 to discuss the General Manager's evaluation. The Board will discuss the evaluation in closed session at its May 12, 2021 Regular meeting.

In consideration of the General Manager's performance over the past twelve months (last compensation package amendment effective May 13, 2020), and as allowed in his employment contract with the District, the Board may consider whether a merit pay, of up to seven and one half percent (7.5%) of his current salary, is warranted. This determination must be made by action of the Board in open session. Additionally, the Board may consider advancement of the General Manager's salary to the next step eligible (step 4) within the Tier One Management salary range, as well as any other amendments to his compensation package.

Fiscal Impact:

The General Manager's FY 2020-21 annual salary is currently at a designated Management Tier 1 - Step 3 which is \$299,416.80. The Board may approve a performance merit pay of up to seven and one half percent (7.5%) of his annual salary through June 30. If approved, this merit pay will be issued in a one-time payment prior to the conclusion of FY 2020-21. In addition, the Board may approve an additional amendment to the General Manager's compensation package, including a step increase effective on May 15, 2021 to the fourth step in the Tier 1 salary range. This increase would equate to an initial increase of \$22,456.26 for the following annual year. Funds for this increase if approved are available in the current FY 2020-21 annual budget.

RESOLUTION 2021-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AMENDING THE GENERAL MANAGER'S TOTAL COMPENSATION PACKAGE INCLUDING A STEP INCREASE, PERFORMANCE MERIT PAY, AND OTHER COMPENSATION

WHEREAS, as is allowed in the General Manager's employment contract with the District, the Board will evaluate the performance and consider increasing the General Manager's compensation package in accordance with that performance evaluation, this Resolution will serve to document the Board's decisions regarding 1) performance merit pay as a percentage of General Manager's FY 2020-21 salary; 2) an equivalent step increase based on sustained superior performance, and 3) other compensation amendments, as deemed appropriate by the Board, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors, based on Executive Committee recommendations, will consider adopting this resolution amending the General Manager's total compensation package, including merit pay.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Directors of the United Water Conservation District as follows:

- 1. Merit pay (Incentive pay) will be awarded at a rate of seven and one half (7.5%) percent of the General Manager's salary and will be considered pensionable compensation as defined by CALPERS and the District will also pay any EPMC for both the employee and employer, if applicable.
- 2. A Tier One Management salary step increase to step four (4).

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of May, 2021.

ATTEST:	
	Michael W. Mobley, Board President
ATTEST:	
	Sheldon G. Berger, Board Secretary/Treasurer



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

From: Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

Date: April 29, 2021 (May 12, 2021 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 2.8 Scheduling AB 1825 Harassment Prevention and AB 1234 Ethics

Training for Board Members

Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board of Directors will consider whether to 1) participate in on-demand online instruction, live webinar instruction or live on-site training, and, if live training is preferred, 2) select a date for on-site training.

Background:

AB 1825 (Government Code §12950.1) requires employers having 50 or more employees to provide at least two hours of training every two years to all supervisory employees in California regarding sexual harassment. An employer shall also include prevention of abusive conduct as a component of the training.

AB 1234 (Government Code §53235 et seq.) requires elected and appointed officials and designated employees to take at least two hours of training in general ethics principles and ethics laws relevant to public service at least every two years if they receive compensation for their service or are reimbursed for their expenses.

Several training options are available to the Board, including free on demand online training that can be scheduled at the Directors' leisure; or webinars that are scheduled on specific dates and times; or live on-site training. CSDA and SDRMA (through Target Solutions) offer on-demand online training, and scheduled webinars which meet the requirements of AB 1825 and AB 1234. If the Board prefers, staff will schedule a Special Board Meeting to provide live on-site training here at District headquarters through SDRMA.

Fiscal Impact: On demand online training and webinars are free of charge for SDRMA members through CSDA and Target Solutions.



MINUTES REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Daniel C. Naumann General Manager Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Legal Counsel David D. Boyer

Board of Directors

Mohammed A. Hasan

Lynn E. Maulhardt Edwin T. McFadden III

Michael W. Mobley, President Bruce E. Dandy, Vice President Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer

Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 12:00 P.M.
Board Room, UWCD Headquarters
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030

Meeting was held in person at UWCD's Boardroom and virtually via WebEx

Board Members Present

Michael W. Mobley, President Bruce E. Dandy, Vice President Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer Mohammed A. Hasan Lynn E. Maulhardt

Edwin T. McFadden, III (virtual participation)

Daniel C. Naumann

Staff Present

Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., general manager

David D. Boyer, legal counsel

Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer (virtual participation)

John Carman, operations and maintenance program supervisor (virtual participation)

Brian Collins, chief operations officer

Dan Detmer, supervising hydrogeologist

Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager

Joseph Jereb, chief financial officer

Kathleen Kuepper, hydrologist (virtual participant)

Josh Perez, human resources manager

Zachary Plummer, IT administrator

Linda Purpus, environmental services manager (virtual participation)

Kris Sofley, executive administrative coordinator/clerk of the board

Dr. Bram Sercu, senior hydrologist

Clayton Strahan, chief park ranger

Dr. Jason Sun, senior hydrogeologist/modeler (virtual participation)

Public Present

Burt Handy (virtual participation)

Pat Kelley (virtual participation)

Aubrey Mescher, Rincon Consultants (virtual participation)

Tony Morgan, Daniel B Stephens & Associates (virtual participation)

Brian Wheeler, AALRR (virtual participation)

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

President Mobley called the meeting to order at 12:00p.m. and asked the District's Legal Counsel David Boyer to announce what the Board will discuss in Executive (Closed) Session.

Mr. Boyer said the Board would be discussing five cases of existing litigation, including three cases with the City of San Buenaventura, one case with Wishtoyo Foundation and one case brought by the Dorsey family regarding the Rivera estate; and one case of anticipated litagation.

1.1 Public Comments

Information Item

President Mobley asked if there were any public comments at this time; none were offered.

1.2 EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION 12:04 P.M.

President Mobley adjourned the meeting into Executive (Closed) session at 12:04p.m.

2. SECOND OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER 1:10 P.M.

President Mobley called the Second Open Session of the Board meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and asked the Clerk to call roll. All seven Directors (Berger, Dandy, Hasan, Maulhardt, McFadden, Naumann, Mobley) were present.

2.1 Pledge of Allegiance

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

2.2 Public Comment

Information Item

President Mobley asked if there were any public comments; none were offered.

2.3 Approval of Agenda

Motion

President Mobley asked General Manager Mauricio Guardado if there were any changes to the agenda. Mr. Guardado responded that there were no changes.

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

2.4 Oral Report Regarding Executive (Closed) Session Information Item

District Legal Counsel David D. 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 McFadden reported his attendance at two Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Board meetings as well as a Special Board meeting for the agency. He also attended the UWCD Water Resources Committee meeting and met with District consultant Dr. William Mathis on April 9.

Director Naumann reported that March was a very busy month which included virtual meetings with various elected and regulatory officials in Washington, DC. He also met with District consultant Dr. William Mathis, with District legal counsel and with Director Dandy; he participated in California Special District Association's training webinars and attended the virtual Regional Defense Partnership for the 21st Century meeting. He also reported that he and Director McFadden met with Ventura County Supervisor Kelly Long, that he attended a prep meeting with President Mobley, the GM and UWCD staff prior to his attendance at the Fox Canyon GMA Stakeholder meetings and Board meeting, the Pleasant Valley County Water District's Special Board meeting, and various ACWA and AWA-VC meetings.

Director Berger reported that he also participated in the virtual meeting with elected and regulatory officials in DC along with the GM, Director Dandy and Director Naumann. He also reported attending several AWA-VC meetings, the UWCD Recreation Committee on April 7, and the UWCD Finance Committee on April 13. He also reminded everyone that Phil McGrath would be the guest speaker at tomorrow's (April 15) AWA-VC Virtual WaterWise event.

Director Dandy reported his participation at the March 9 UWCD Finance Committee meeting and the March 10 UWCD Board meeting. He also attended a UWCD Executive Committee meeting, the virtual meetings with elected and regulatory officials from DC, participated in CSDA training on March 3 and 4; was elected to the presidency of the Ventura County Special Districts Association on March 9 at its Board meeting, which he attended. He also attended two AWA-VC meetings, three ACWA virtual legislative meetings, met with the GM and met with Ventura County Supervisor Carmen Ramirez.

Director Maulhardt reported his attendance at the UWCD Finance Committee on April 13 and the UWCD Water Resources Committee meeting on April 12. He also joined the GM in a meeting with Oxnard City Councilmember Bryan MacDonald.

Director Hasan reported his participation in the UWCD Recreation Committee meeting on April 7 in addition to virtual meetings including the AWA Water Issues and WaterWise meetings, a meeting with Dr. Mathis, SDRMA online training webinars and attended the Ventura Water Commission. He also made a statement and invited other board members and the public to join him in condemning racism,

UWCD Board of Directors Meeting MINUTES April 14, 2021 Page 4

xenophobia, violence and hate crimes against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

President Mobley reported his participation at the Mound Basin GSA meeting on March 18, a Fox Canyon GMA meeting on March 24 and a prep meeting with UWCD GM and staff in advance of the Fox Canyon meeting, a special meeting of the Ventura Water Commission on March 30, a meeting and tour of Naval Base Ventura on March 29 to look at the Navy's desal treatment facility, a Zoom meeting with Ventura County Supervisor Carmen Ramirez, and a Board prep meeting with UWCD's GM.

2.6 General Manager's Report Information Item

General Manager Mauricio Guardado shared information with the Board regarding the virtual meetings with legislators and regulators in Washington, DC, reporting that the District's relationships are expanding and partnerships are forming that are based on the District's outreach and educational efforts that have resulted in increased awareness of the District's activities as well as increasing the willingness of elected officials to step in, get involved and help the District with some of its regulatory and funding challenges.

He also reported that Chief Engineer Dr. Maryam Bral is continuing to well-represent the District, engaging staff and the Navy's team in productive joint meetings, encouraging facilities tours, and continuing to define the roles and responsibilities of both District and Navy staff regarding the Coastal Brackish Groundwater Treatment Plant project. Mr. Guardado reported that the Navy are all in and that the partnership between the Navy and the District is solid and continues to develop.

Mr. Guardado also thanked Directors Dandy, Hasan and Naumann for taking part in the special training webinars offered by California Special Districts Association (CSDA). He also credited HR Manager Josh Perez and Safety and Security Program Coordinator Tony Huynh for assisting the Directors' participation, noting that these training opportunities have resulted in \$47,000 in insurance savings to the District.

Mr. Guardado reported that later in April, the General Manager of Palmdale Water District and members of his staff will tour the UWCD facilities and that he was optimistic about where this partnership could go.

Director Hasan, Director Naumann and President Mobley provided positive comments to Mr. Guardado on his efforts.

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 March 10, 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 follow the District's investment policy, which is reviewed and approved annually by the Board.

President Mobley asked if there were any questions or comments, of if any of the Board wished to pull an item from the Consent Calendar for discussion. None were offered.

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

4. MOTION ITEMS (By Department)

<u>Water Resources Department</u> – Maryam Bral

4.1 PUBLIC HEARING

Opening of Annual Groundwater Hearing to Accept Comment on Groundwater Conditions within the District

President Mobley opened the annual Groundwater Hearing, stating that:

In accordance with the District's principal act in the California Water Code, the Board annually conducts a public hearing to consider the conditions of groundwater resources within the District. An "Annual Investigation and Report of Groundwater Conditions" was submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board on March 30, 2021 and has been available for public review and comment. This hearing will be opened and continued to the regular May 2021 and June 2021 Board meetings. At this meeting, staff will give a report about current groundwater

UWCD Board of Directors Meeting MINUTES April 14, 2021 Page 6

conditions, and members of the public will be permitted to give testimony. At its June 10, 2021 meeting, the Board may choose to close the hearing and consider the establishment of zones and the levying of groundwater extraction charges in those zones.

President Mobley asked if there were any public comments at this time. None were offered.

President Mobley then continued the Public Hearing first until Wednesday, May 12, 2021, and again to Wednesday, June 9, 2021. He also reminded everyone that the Board decisions will not be made until the final Public Hearing on June 9, 2021.

Park and Recreation Department - Clayton Strahan

4.2 <u>Resolution 2021-08</u> Lake Piru Recreation Area Fees, Fee Administration, Loyalty Rewards Program, and Reservation/Cancelation/Refund Guidelines <u>Motion</u>

Chief Ranger Clayton Strahan addressed the Board and walked them through the various changes to the Lake Piru Recreation Area fees and administration of fees as well as the new Loyalty Rewards Program and Guidelines for handling Overnight Camping Reservations, Cancelations and Refunds, including defining peak and non-peak periods, a \$10 service fee for online reservations, a \$50 cancelation fee for group sites and a \$100 refundable cleaning/security deposit for group sites. He also reported the Recreation Committee's recommendation that Wi-Fi access fees be rounded to whole dollar amounts (\$9 per day; \$22 per week; and \$39 per month).

Director Maulhardt said he thought the group sites cleaning/security deposit was too low and Chief Strahan explained that most group site reservations are from non-profit and religious groups that do not have the funding to provide larger deposits. He also said that if a group left the campsites dirty, a citation would be issued which would require a Superior Court appearance and that the \$100 refundable cleaning/security deposit was consistent with Casitas, Castaic and State Parks. Mr. Guardado suggested tracking the number of cleaning/security violations over a specific amount of time and if it were deemed necessary, the District could always increase the cleaning/security deposit amount. Director Berger thought that was a workable solution, stating that staff are much more observant that third-party managers and yielded to Chief Strahan's recommendation.

Motion to approve <u>Resolution 2021-08</u>, establishing Lake Piru Recreation Area Fees, Fee Administration, Loyalty Rewards Program and Reservation, Cancelation, Refund Guidelines, 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)

Operations and Maintenance - Brian Collins

5.1 Monthly Operation and Maintenance Department Report Information Item

Brian Collins supplemented his monthly department report with a presentation (see attached) to the Board. Among the topics covered were the preparation for the Sanitary Survey of Lake Piru's Water Treatment pump barge by the Division of Drinking Water's Sanitary Inspector, which went well. He spoke about the District's surface water deliveries, nitrate levels at El Rio, the Iron and Manganese treatment plant, and updating the District's Water System Emergency Response Plan. Mr. Collins also provided images of a repair of turnout #149 on the PTP system and concluded by discussing State Water Project allocations, which are currently estimated at 5% of allocations.

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

Park and Recreation Division - Clayton Strahan

5.2 Monthly Park and Recreation Department Report Information Item

Chief Strahan offered the Board some good news in his presentation (see attached) regarding operations and items of note relative to the Lake Piru Recreation Area. Day Use, visitors and revenue were all significantly up over last year and camping was on par with previous year reservations.

Director Maulhardt asked how many non, partial and full hook up sites are currently available at Lake Piru. Chief Strahan answered there are over 100 basic campsites, 96 campsites with electrical hook-ups and 12 campsites will full hook-ups. He added that there is a plan in place to increase the number of electrical hook-up sites in the future and that staff were currently in the process of updating the Lake Piru Recreation Area master plan.

Director Berger congratulated Chief Strahan on the increases across all revenue, including filming revenue and sales of firewood, et cetera, adding that 100 percent of that profit goes to the District. He also mentioned plans to invite food trucks and add vending machines and said that Chief Strahan was doing a yeoman's job in managing the recreation area and staff and that Director Berger was very impressed. Director Maulhardt agreed, stating that he has never felt this level of energy, enthusiasm and professionalism from the Recreation department and was also impressed by the level of collaboration between departments which created a new level of confidence. Director Maulhardt also suggested that, in the near future, staff should organize a special Board meeting at Lake Piru and provide Directors with a tour of the Lake, Dr. Bral's dam project so that all could have an appreciation for how much work was being done. President Mobley agreed and suggested September or October as possible dates for the Special Board meeting at Lake Piru.

Chief Strahan thanked Chief Finance Officer Joseph Jereb and Chief Engineer Dr. Maryam Bral as well as Operations and Maintenance staff for all their help in pulling together to make this new management operation successful.

President Mobley asked if there were any more comments or questions for Chief Strahan. None were offered.

Water Resources Department - Maryam Bral

5.3 Monthly Water Resources Department Report Information Item

Supervising Hydrogeologist Dan Detmer asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the staff's monthly department report and none were expressed. He then began the Water Resources' department presentation (see attached), which provided information regarding the level of Lake Piru (low at 19,000AF) diversions at the Freeman (2000 AF versus average for the month which is about 8,000 AF) and demonstrated through slides that the watershed was experiencing very dry conditions.

Mr. Detmer then invited Senior Hydrologist Dr. Bram Sercu to the podium to continue the presentation on Drought Conditions. Director Naumann asked Dr. Sercu if PTP and PV customers had been updated that there will most likely not be any opportunities for water, and suggested staff consider providing such an update. Mr. Guardado said that the District had not sent out any notices, but that the PTP and OH pipeline users would be meeting in May and that would be discussed at those meetings. Director Maulhardt suggested including drought notices in the mailing of meeting invitations and information to customers, possibly even doing a severe drought alert notice. Clerk of the Board confirmed that she would communicate that request to the admin team working on meeting invites, notifications and presentations.

Dr. Sercu said this was the new normal and that 2010 to 2020 have been very dry years, but that Piru, Fillmore and Santa Paula basins are all at good levels, but that the Forebay was not in as good a shape. Dr. Sercu then turned the presentation over to Senior Hydrogeologist/Modeler Dr. Jason Sun.

Dr Sun updated the Board on the expanding groundwater model and how the District was using this valuable tool to help the region's GSAs with groundwater sustainability plans. He said a report on the model expansion had been reviewed by an expert panel earlier in April and all agreed that it was good. Dr. Sun said the model validation report was currently being drafted and the draft GSP Simulation report was in review. Dr. Sun mentioned that the expert panel was comprised of Jim Carnbaugh, Dr. Sorab Panday and John Porcello.

President Mobley asked if there were any more comments or questions for the Water Resources team. None were offered.

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

Information Item

Mr. Detmer updated the Board on GSA activities (see attached slides). President Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions for Mr. Detmer. None were offered.

Administrative Services Department - Joseph Jereb/Josh Perez

5.5 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report – Anthony Emmert Information Item

The Board received a summary report on Administration Department activities.

President Mobley asked if there were any more comments or questions for the Administrative Services Department.

Director Dandy said he would like to compliment Joseph Jereb on the changes to the format for reporting to the Finance Committee. Director Maulhardt stated that he had raised concerns previously during the committee meeting, asking to see the correlation by department to the budget and that Joe did a good job on developing a format for reporting that information.

President Mobley asked if there were any more comments or questions for the Administrative Services department. 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, including, but not limited to design and construction; dam safety; FERC license compliance; Freeman Diversion; recycled water; pipeline operations and various engineering analysis.

President Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions for Dr. Bral. 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 there were any comments or questions for Environmental Services Manager Linda Purpus. None were offered.

UWCD Board of Directors	Meeting	MINUT	'ES
April 14, 2021			
Page 10			

6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS READING FILE

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

President Mobley asked if any of the Board members had any future agenda items they would like considered. None were offered.

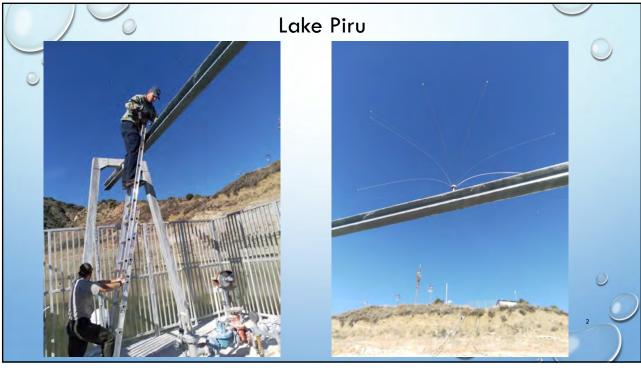
8. ADJOURNMENT 3:50p.m.

President Mobley adjourned the meeting at 3:50p.m. to the Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 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 April 14, 2021.

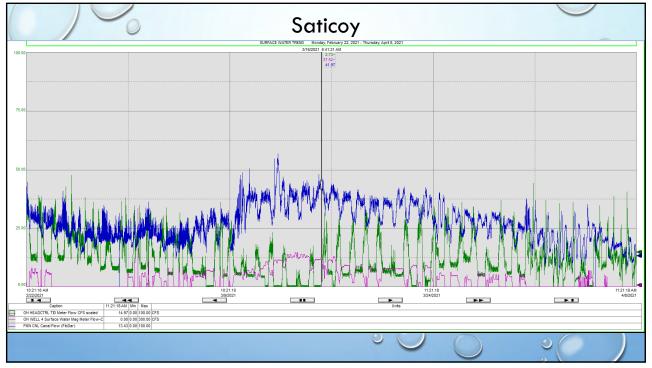
ATTEST:	
	Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer
	·
ATTEST:	
	Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board







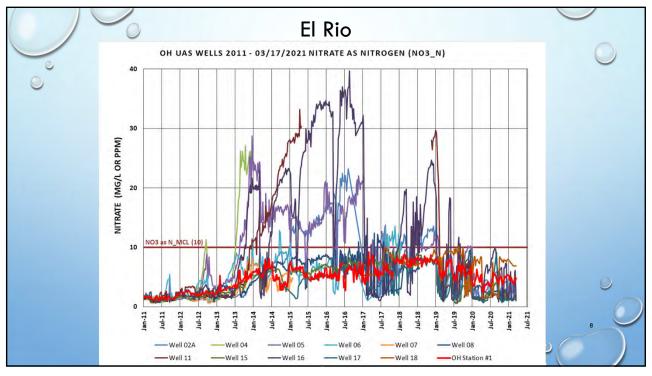
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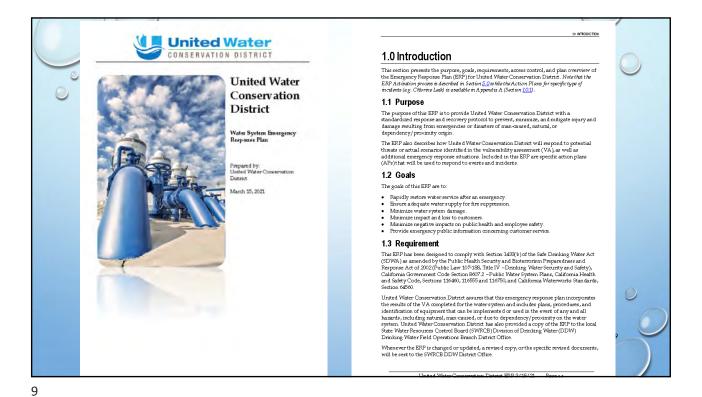








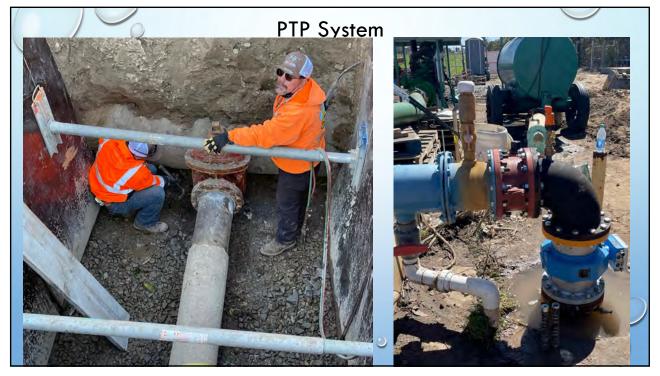




IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

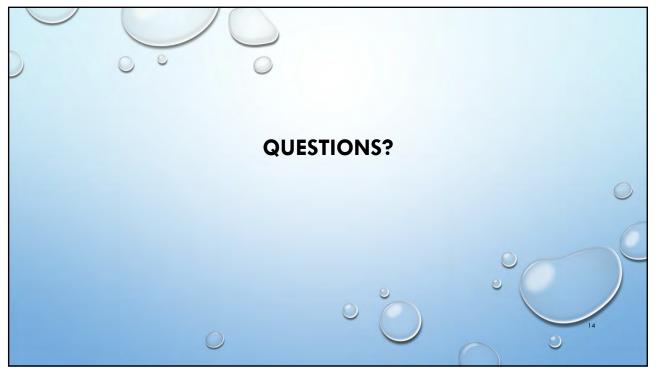
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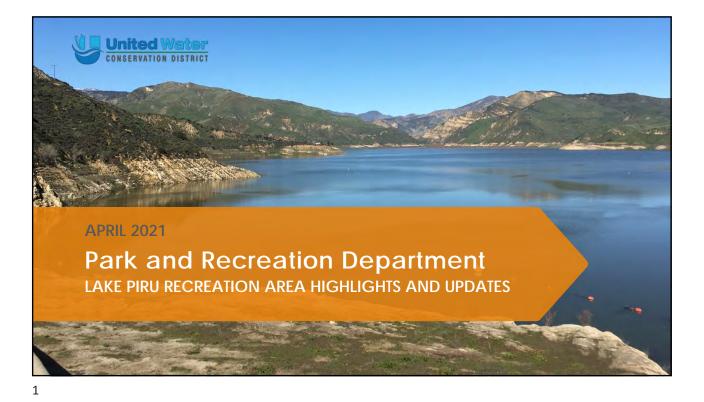






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Lake Piru Fees and Loyalty Rewards/Incentives Program
 Approval of Loyalty Rewards/Incentives Program

- Approval of Proposed Changes to the Lake Piru Fee Schedule
 - Amend vehicle fee from annual daily rate of \$14 to seasonal daily rates of \$10 (Oct-Mar) and \$14 (Apr-Sep)
 - Amend Group II nightly fee from annual flat rate of \$30 per night to seasonal rate of \$25 and \$32 per night
 - o Amend daily motorcycle fee from \$9 to \$8
 - Amend reservation fee from \$9 to \$10
 - Adopt a \$100 refundable cleaning/security deposit for Group camp sites
 - Adopt a \$50 cancellation fee for group sites
 - o Adopt Wi-Fi fees of \$9 p/d, \$22 p/w and \$39 p/m

United Water Conservation District



Economic Update

2021 vs. 2020

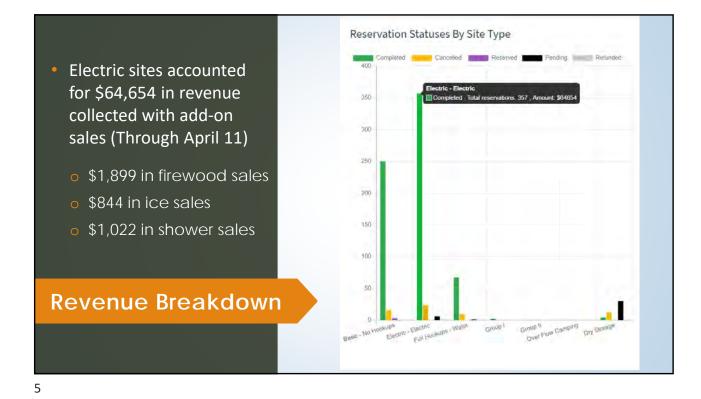
Day Use plus Camping Revenue and Visitation Comparison

	Year	Day Use Revenue	Camping Revenue	Combined Revenue	Persons	Vehicles	Vessels
	2021	\$52,145.50	\$64,843.60	\$116,721.20	8,280	4,011	773
	2020	\$9,731.25	\$49,321.80	\$50,293.05	2,885	1,282	224
	2019	\$11,361.00	\$110,065.39	\$121,426.39	7,228	3,313	254
,	2018	\$11,918.00	\$63,283.20	\$75,126.20	5,336	2,571	252

- All revenue and visitation figures are through March 31 of Each of the four calendar years shown
- Day Use Revenue saw an annual average growth rate of 50% over the 4-year average
- 337% increase in Day Use Revenue (2021 vs. same period 2018)
- 358% increase in Day Use Revenue (2021 vs. same period 2019)
- 425% increase in Day Use Revenue (2021 vs. same period 2020
- Total Revenue is up 132% over 2020; up 55% over 2018 & down 3.88% over 2019
- REVENUE THROUGH APRIL 11: \$162,465.20

United Water Conservation District

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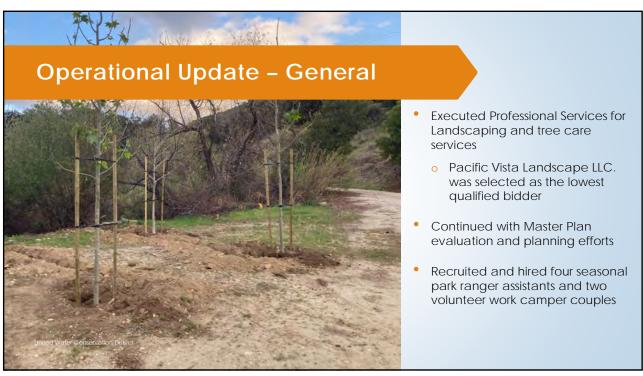




- Approximately \$90,700 in Camping Revenue
 February 19 April 11
- Approximately \$71,195.50 in Day Use
 Revenue January 1 –
 April 11
- Projecting \$60,000 in Camping Revenue in April and \$20,000 in Day Use Revenue

12-Months Earnings





Operational Update

Irrigation System Repairs

- Pacific Vista Landscape continued efforts to repair the park's irrigation system which included:
 - One main line leak repair
 - Two lateral line repairs
 - Installation of pressure gauge
 - Installation of an isolation valve and blow off
- Replacement of 20 irrigation heads
- Installed 300 feet of drip line and planted 11 trees





Jnited Water Conservation District

9

Operational Update

Purchases and Installations

- Purchased six Yamaha U-max rally utility carts for seasonal and volunteer staff
- Purchased new uniforms for all seasonal staff (polo shirts and caps shown to the left)
- Purchased 10 new handheld radios for park staff
- Installed radio base station at Ranger Station
- Purchased three generators to address ongoing PSPS outages
- Installed ice machines in two locations within the park
 - Ice provided by Newhall Ice for sales operations





United Water Conservation District

Operational Update

Facilities Maintenance

- Relocated two connex storage containers onto gravel pads
- Installed a new fee sign
- Reprogrammed the pay shower systems (8 minutes for \$1.50)
- Cleaned and prepped the Oak Lane and Lower Oaks restrooms
- Relocated all ADA picnic tables
- Installed fishing line tubes (Grant)





Jnited Water Conservation District

11

Operational Update

Travel and Training

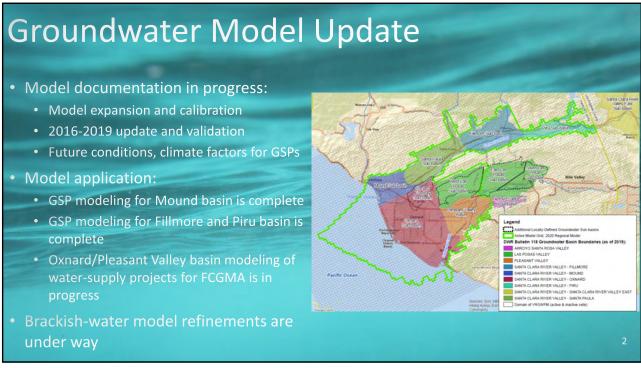
- Staff participated in a departmental kickoff meeting on March 27, 2021.
- Ranger Danny Helton attended and completed Boater Safety and Enforcement Training at Lake Havasu.
- Chief Strahan is planning to attend Clemson University in the fall to complete the in-person portion of the Ron Walker Leadership Program for Recreation Professionals course.
- Participated in ongoing coordination meetings with the staff of MySites.com and Finance personnel.





United Water Conservation District





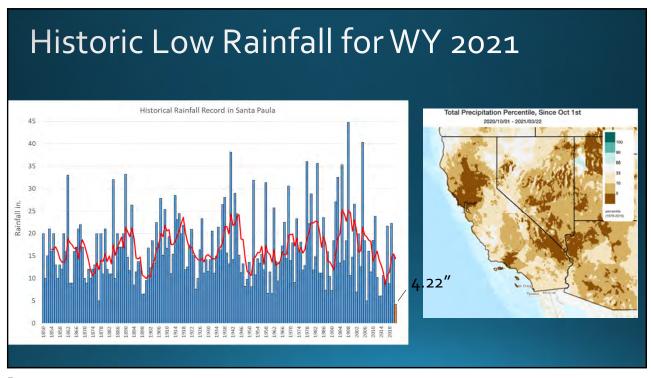
Other Activities (non-SGMA related)

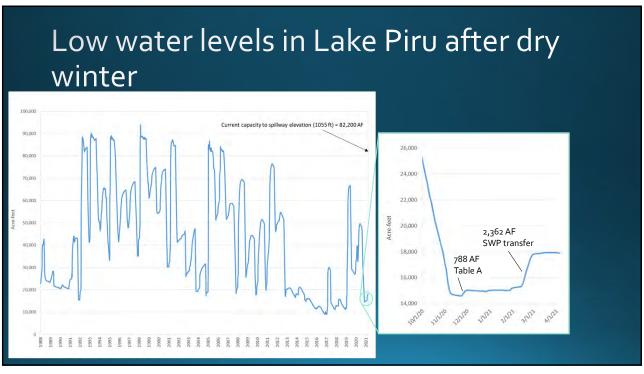
- Assist with oversight of drilling and design of El Rio well #19
- Support fish passage and flow design for Freeman Diversion
- Assist with purchase and release of supplemental SWP water
- Complete draft Urban Water Management Plan
- Complete and submit 2020 water rights reporting
- Submit report on 2020 conditions in Oxnard basin related to recycled-water pumping allocations
- Continue optimizing potential water-supply projects
- Lead virtual field trip to Freeman Diversior

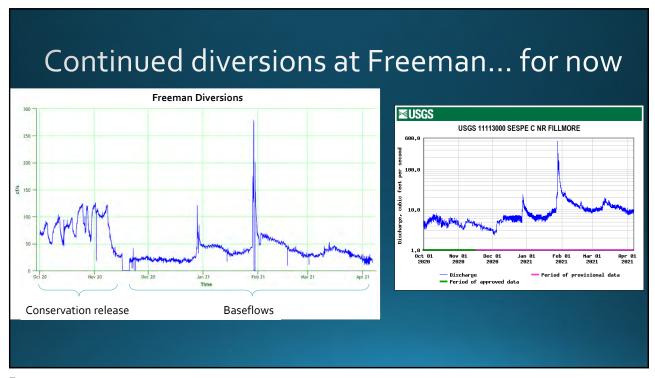


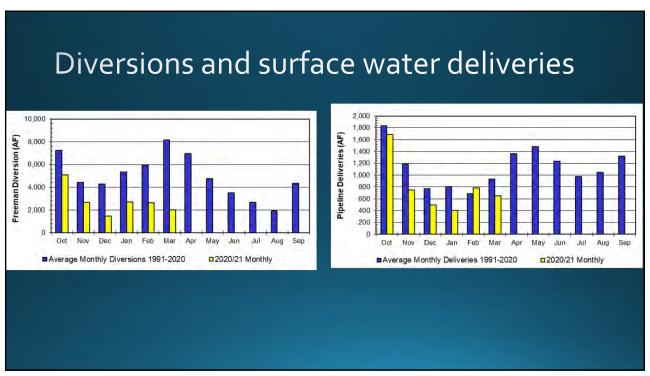
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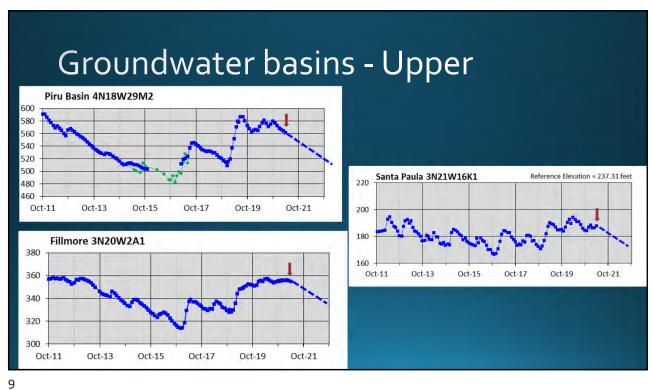
Summary of Drought Conditions

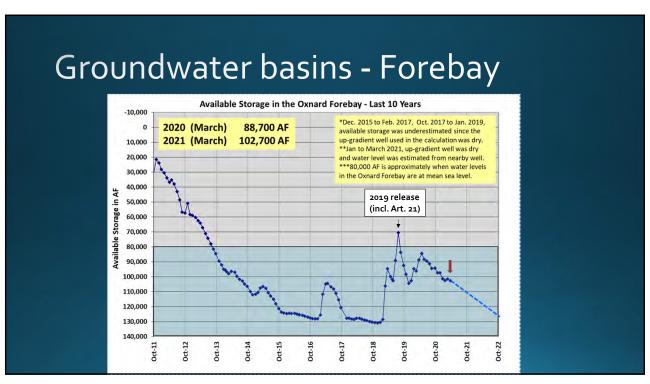


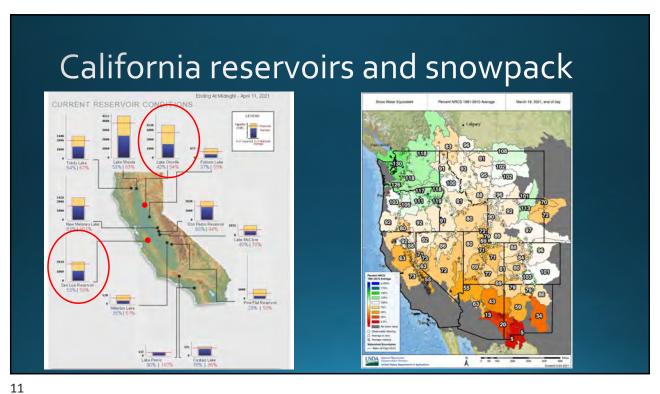


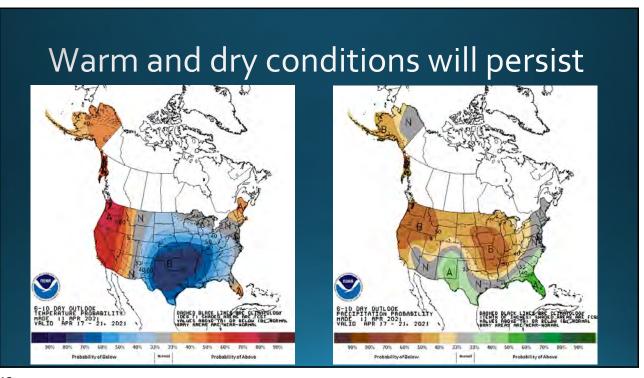


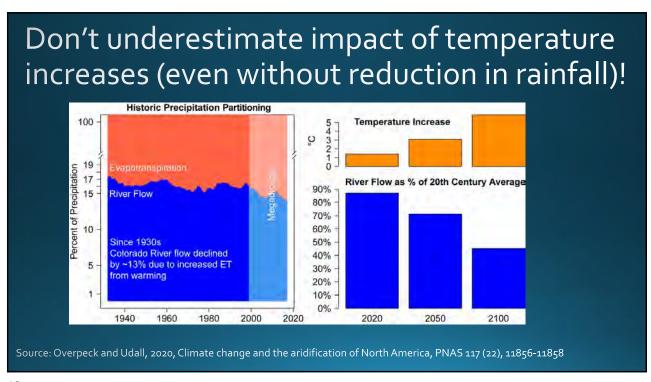


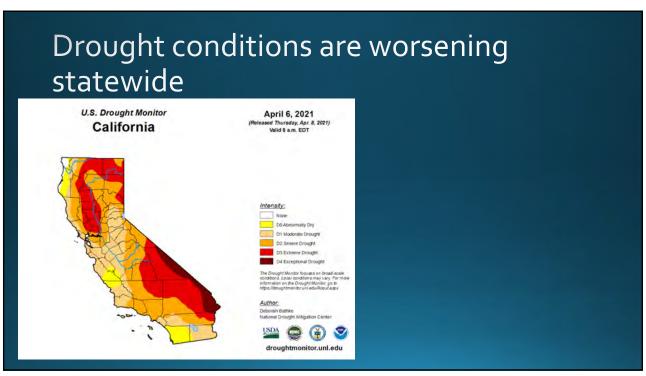






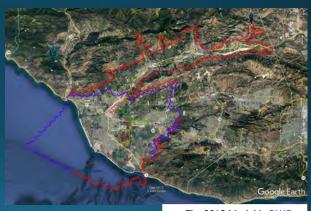






Model Development Recap

- Model expansion (1985-2015) completed in August 2020
- Model validation (2016-2019) completed in September 2020



The 2018 Model in BLUE
 The 2020 Model in RED.

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15

15

From October 2020 to February 2021

- Model cleanup (1985-2019) in October 2020
- Prepared input data for future GSP runs with the 1943-2019 climate data (October 2020 Dec 2020)
- Ran GSP simulations for Fillmore Piru GSA and Mound GSA (Nov 2020 Feb 2021)
- Gave presentations on the UWCD Model in GSA Board meetings
- Prepared model documentation (full time after February 2021)

UWCD Model Reports

- Report on model expansion
 - GW Model completed in 2020
 - Draft report is completed
 - Sensitivity analysis
 - Review by Expert Pane
 - Planned to release in April

- Model validation report
 - Validation completed in 2020
 - Draft in progress
- GSP Simulation report
 - GSP runs completed in Feb 2021
 - Draft report in review

Credits: Dr. Zach Hanson, Dr. Bram Sercu, Eric Elliot, Dan Detmer, Murray McEachron,...

17

Expert Panel

• Jim Rumbaugh

Developer of the widely used MODFLOW pre- and post-processor, Groundwater Vistas

Dr. Sorab Panday

Co-author of MODFLOW
Author of MODFLOW-USG
Member of National Academy of
Engineering

John Porcello

Licensed Geologist and Hydrogeologist Principal groundwater hydrologist, with focus on western U.S. The expert panel thinks highly of UWCD Models (2018 and 2020 GW models)



Coastal Brackish Water Treatment Plant Basin Impacts and Benefits Analysis

- Prop 1 Groundwater Grant Program (GWGP)
- Extraction barriers in Point Mugu
- Collaboration with the Navy





Simulation result with the UWCD Model. Salinity is NOT simulated

19

19

Data Collection at Point Mugu

- Eric Elliot and Dan Detmer have produced a refined conceptual model in Point Mugu with new data shown in red dots (32 well logs + 23 test boring data)
- The Navy at Point Mugu provides valuable assistance

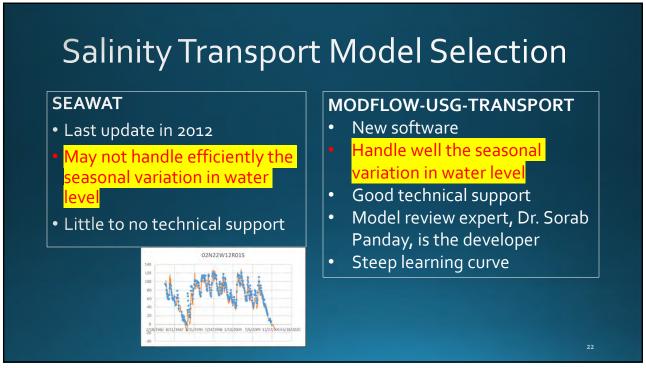
Seawater Intrusion Model

- Incorporate the refined conceptual model into the numerical model
- Add the salinity in the simulation
- Build the model in 4 weeks
- Show progress for a May meeting



20

Salinity Transport Model This salinity transport model can simulate the brackish water study and beyond including regional seawater intrusion This transport model simulates the density effect Transport model capable of simulating salinity, chloride, TDS,... chemicals This transport model will be the 2nd critical tool for Ventura County in addition to the GW model completed in 2020

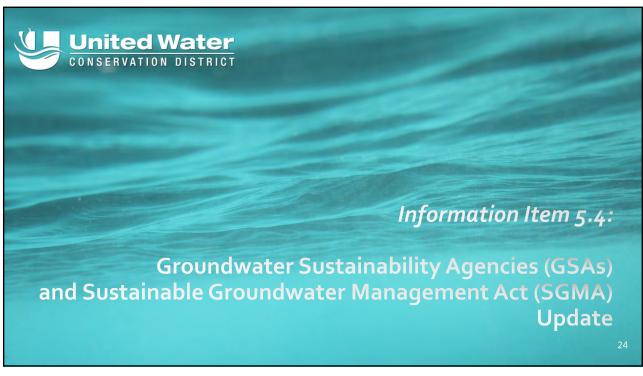


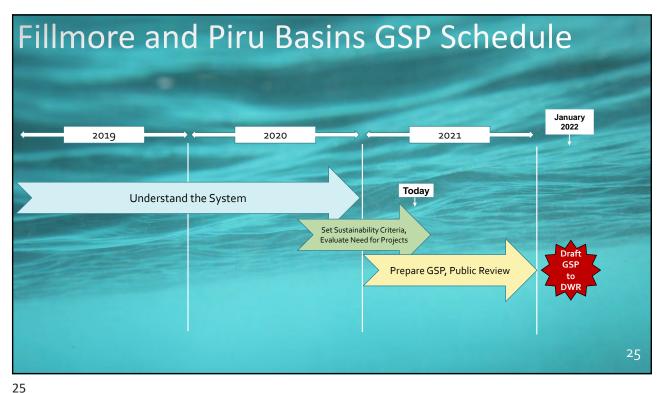
Basin Optimization Study for OPV

- Led by John Lindquist, Dan Detmer
- Modelers:
 - Dr. Zach Hanson (Groundwater)
 - Dr. Bram Sercu (Surface Water)

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Notable Fillmore-Piru Basins GSA Activities

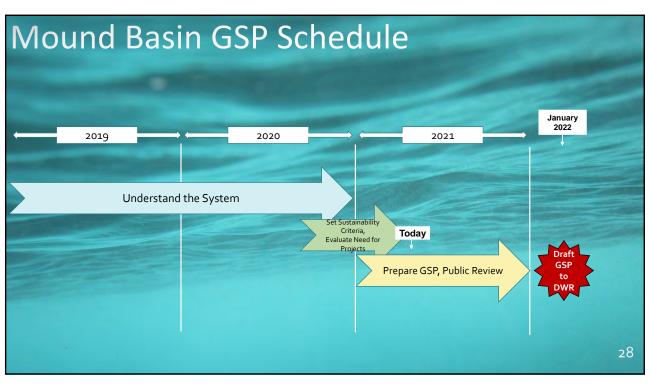
- February Board meeting:
 - Consultant presented a draft matrix for Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs)
- March Board meeting/Stakeholder workshop:
 - Draft criteria for SMCs presented by consultant
 - Draft report detailing riparian vegetation communities and potential Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs) in Piru and Fillmore basins presented by consultant
- April 1 Workshop/Special Board meeting
 - Additional SMC and GDE discussion, adopted some SMCs
- Upcoming events:
 - April 15—Regular Board meeting (5:00 pm)

Notable Santa Paula Basin TAC Activities

- Staff submitted 2019 Santa Paula Basin Annual Report to DWR
 - Required under SGMA for adjudicated basins by April 1
- Staff are preparing the draft 2020 Santa Paula Basin Annual Report
 - Will be reviewed by TAC before finalization and submittal
- Upcoming events:
 - Summer 2021—TAC meeting

27

27

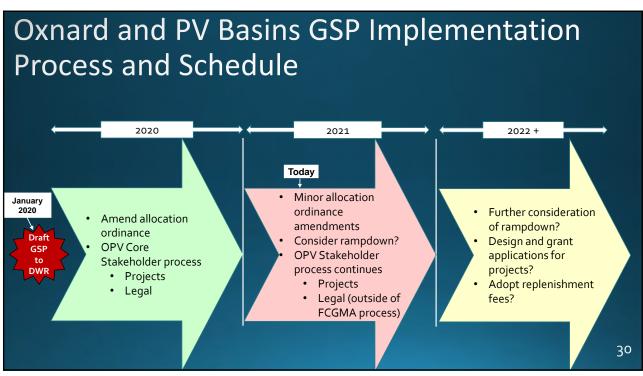


Notable Mound Basin GSA Activities

- February Board meeting:
 - Update on modeling of future groundwater conditions and GSP progress
- March 4 Stakeholder workshop:
 - Proposed sustainable management criteria presented by MBGSA's Executive Director
 - Basin water budgets (historical, current, and future) presented by United staff
- March Board meeting:
 - Board directed staff to prepare GSP section on Sustainable Management Criteria as presented in the workshop and in the Executive Director's staff report
- Upcoming events:
 - April 15—Regular Board meeting (1:00 pm)
 - United staff developing revised draft text, tables, and figures for selected GSP sections

29

29



Notable FCGMA Activities—February

- Board directed staff to continue working with Executive Committee on policy issues related to replenishment fees
- Authorize Executive Officer to sign a second extension on terms acceptable to Agency Counsel of a subaward agreement with The Nature Conservancy for a NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant, for automated metering of wells.
- Adopt modifications to the Las Posas Valley basin allocation ordinance language to amend the allocation ordinance consistent with the October 1, 2021, operative date; open public hearing on the matter.

31

31

Notable FCGMA Activities—March

- Board directed Operations Committee to explore importing water from Calleguas MWD for "in-lieu replenishment" of Las Posas Valley basin
- Board approved ordinances
 - Eliminating some water-use-reporting requirements for certain pumpers exporting groundwater from Oxnard basin
 - Exempting domestic well owners/operators from requirement to install advanced metering (AMI) equipment

FCGMA Core Stakeholder Activities—February

- OPV Core Stakeholders group serves advisory role to FCGMA
- OPV Core Stakeholders began working with new facilitators, focus on the OPV Allocation Ordinance, main topics include
 - Starting allocations
 - Rampdowns
 - Minimum allocations
 - Projects and basin optimization

33

33

FCGMA Core Stakeholder Activities—March

- Continue discussions on allocations and rampdown
- Legal Ad Hoc Committee continues to meet (discussions by this committee are subject to a non-disclosure agreement)
- Initial meeting of the OPV Variance Review Committee took place (April 6)

OPV Core Stakeholder Process

- OPV Core Stakeholders continue discussions regarding starting allocations, rampdown, minimum allocations, and legal "fenceposts"
 - A draft report by the facilitators is due to Executive Committee on April 15, and to full Board on April 28.
 - Some stakeholders suggested extending the facilitation process, since parties seem to be working toward achieving a compromise solution.
 - United representatives continue to stress the need for additional water supply projects and seek to avoid difficult decisions related to "final" allocations.
 - City of Oxnard representatives have also expressed an interest in new projects, working with United and others to develop projects, and a coordinated regional effort seeking federal funding for new projects.

35

35

An exposure of the Las Posas Sands, which comprise part of the Fox Canyon Aquifer, in a road cut along Grimes Canyon Road north of Moorpark, CA. Photo by United staff.



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: May 3, 2021 (May 12, 2021, meeting)

Agenda Item: 3.B Groundwater Basin Status Report

Informational Item

Staff Recommendation:

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

Summary:

Spreading and Pipeline Deliveries for Month of April 2021

Location	Amount (acre-feet)
Saticoy	74
Noble and Rose Pits	
El Rio	317
Piru	
Diverted at Freeman for Pipeline Deliveries	524
Saticoy/O-H Deep Wells Pumped for Ag Pipeline Deliveries	
Lloyd-Butler Diversion	17

Groundwater Basin Available Storage at End of Month of April 2021

Basin	Available Storage (acre-feet)
Oxnard Forebay	106,400

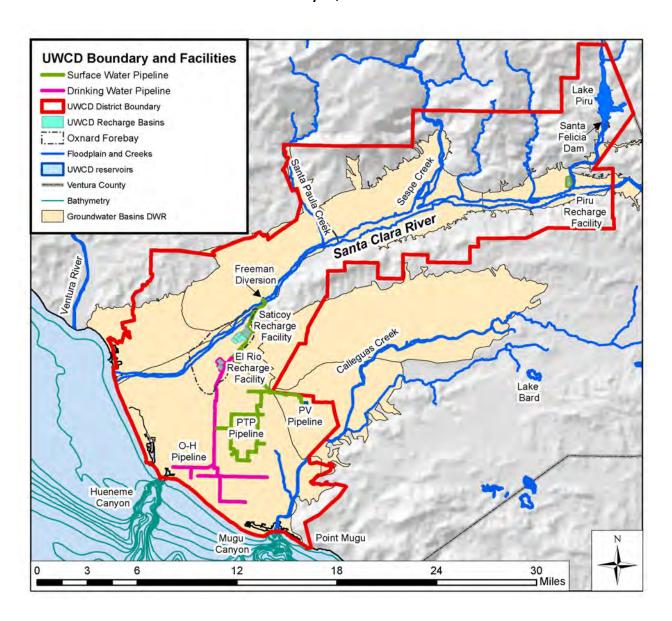
Precipitation for Month of April 2021

Location	Precipitation (inches)
Lake Piru	0.00
Santa Paula	0.00
El Rio	0.00



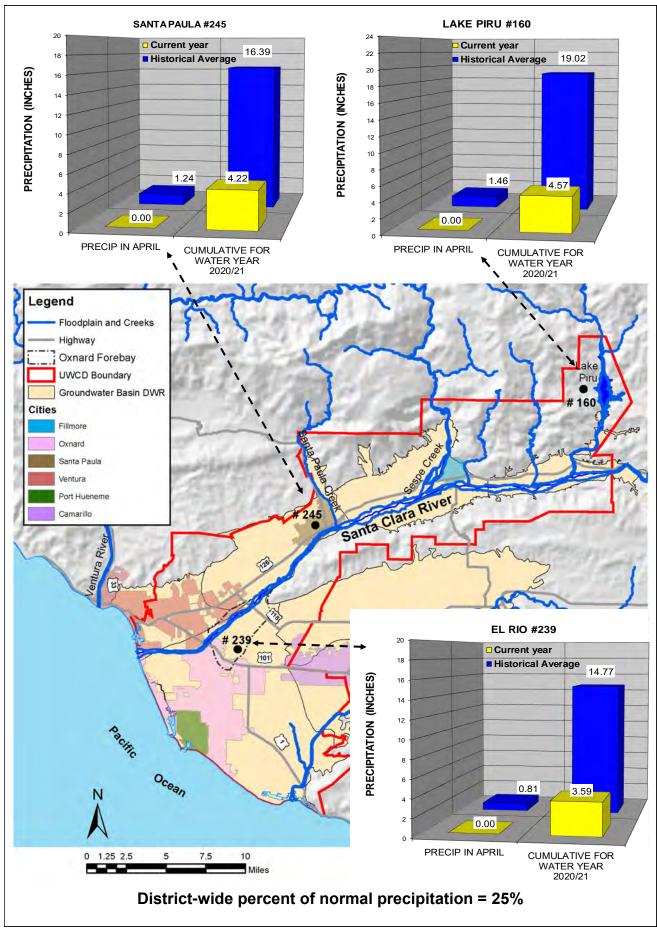
April 2021 Hydrologic Conditions Report 2020/21 Water Year

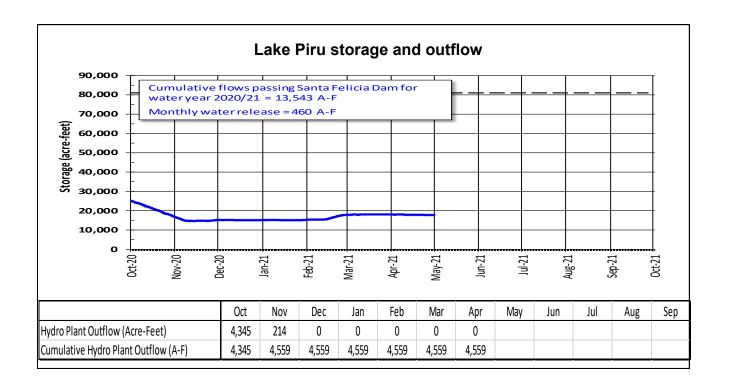
May 3, 2021



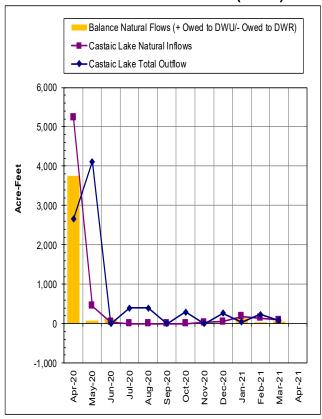
Note: This report may contain provisional data until final review at the end of the water year.

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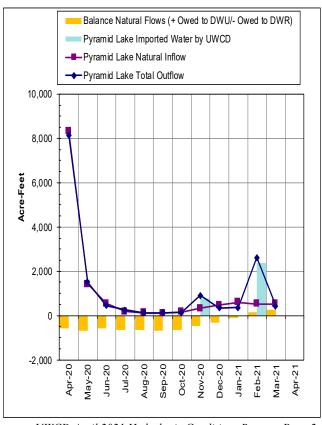




Castaic Lake releases to downstream water users (DWU)

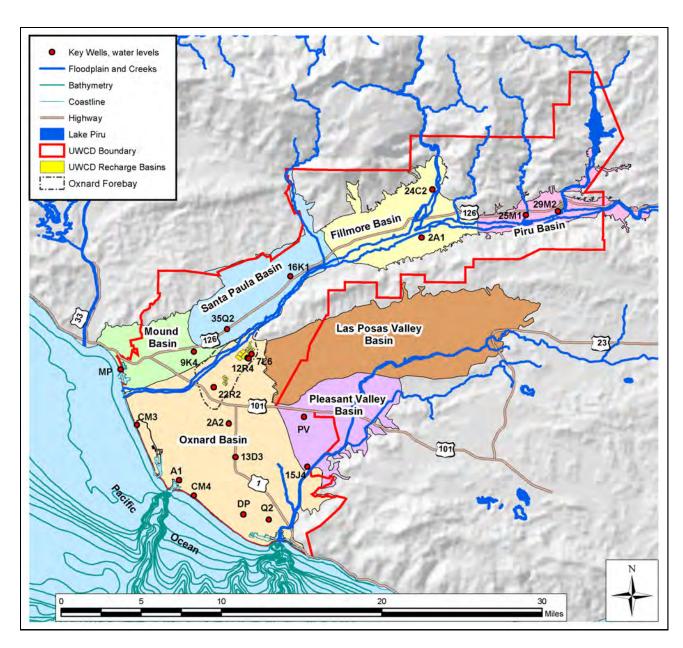


Pyramid Lake releases to UWCD

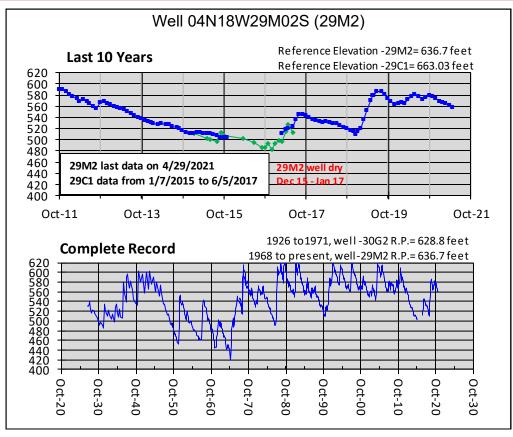


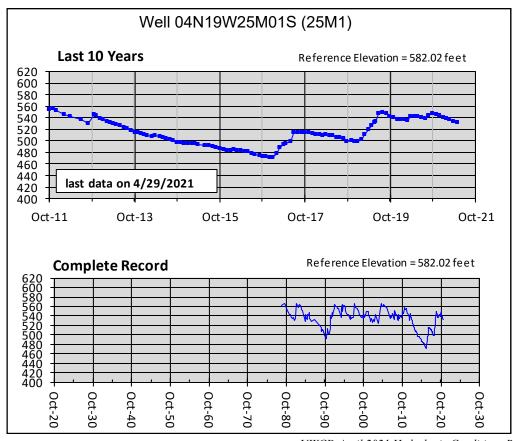
UWCD April 2021 Hydrologic Conditions Report. Page 2

Locations of key wells, monthly groundwater elevation monitoring

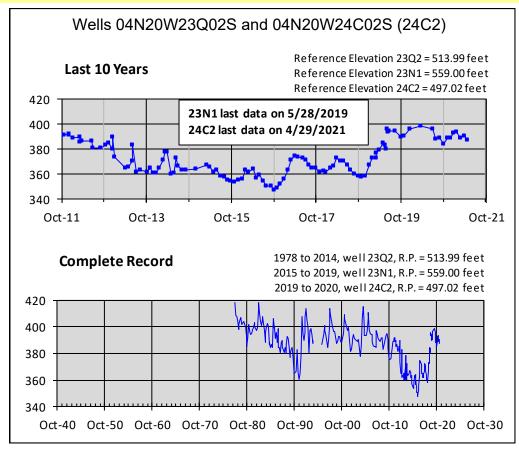


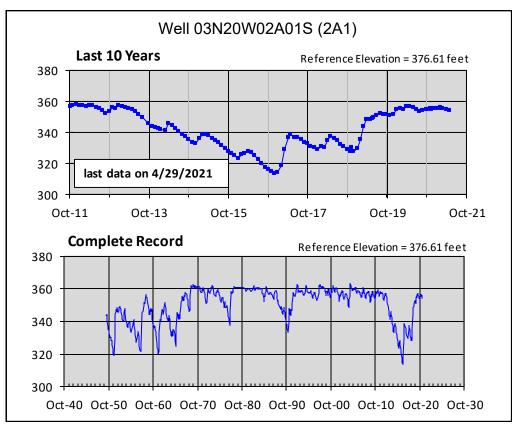
Piru Basin Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records



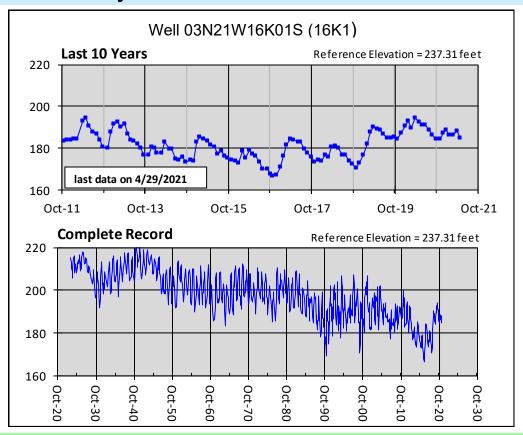


Fillmore Basin Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records

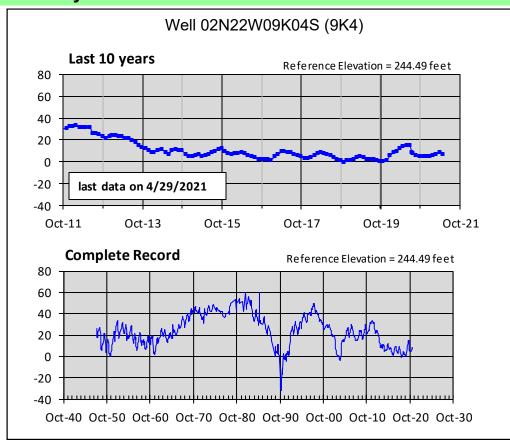




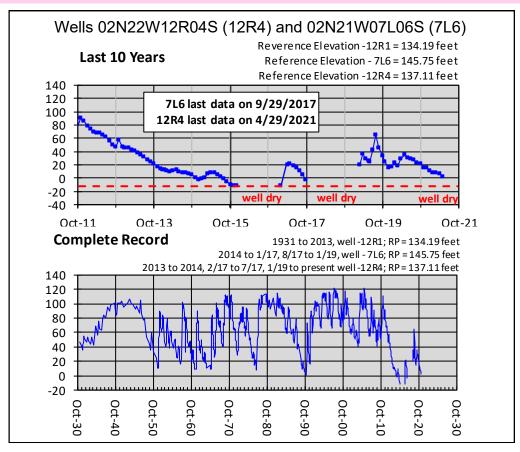
Groundwater Elevation Records Santa Paula Basin Key Well

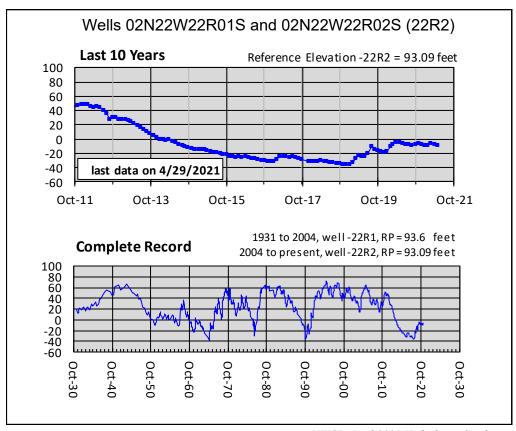


Mound Basin Key Well

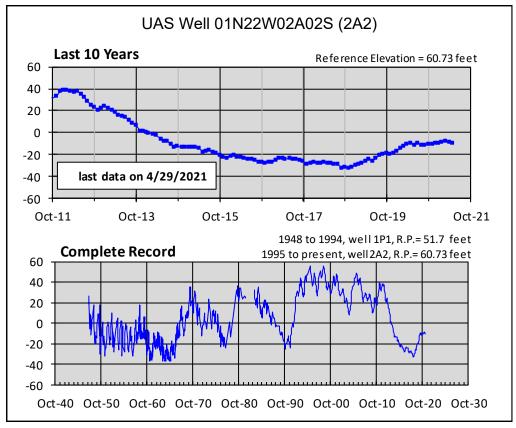


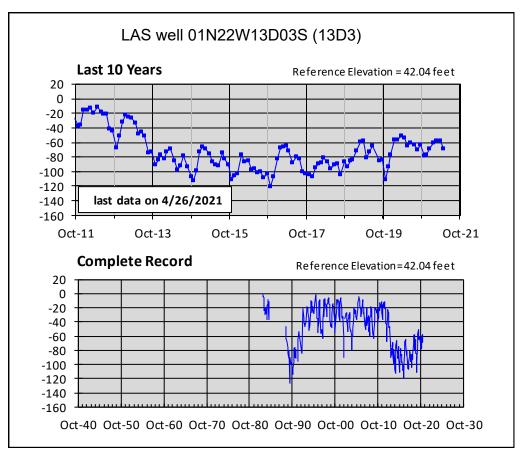
Oxnard Basin—Forebay Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records



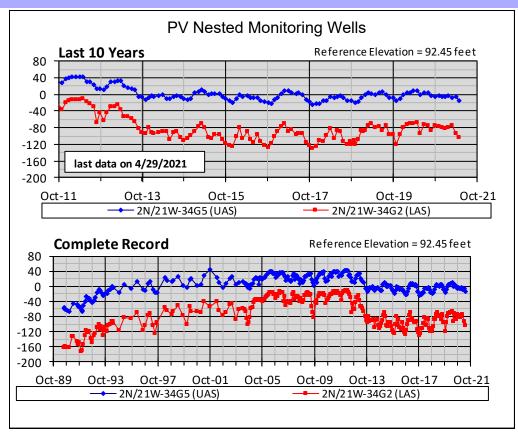


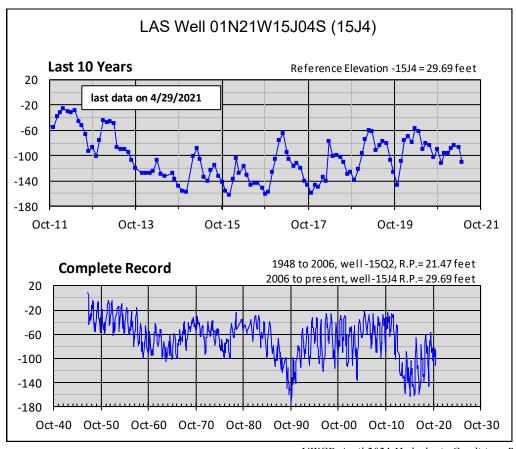
Oxnard Basin Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records



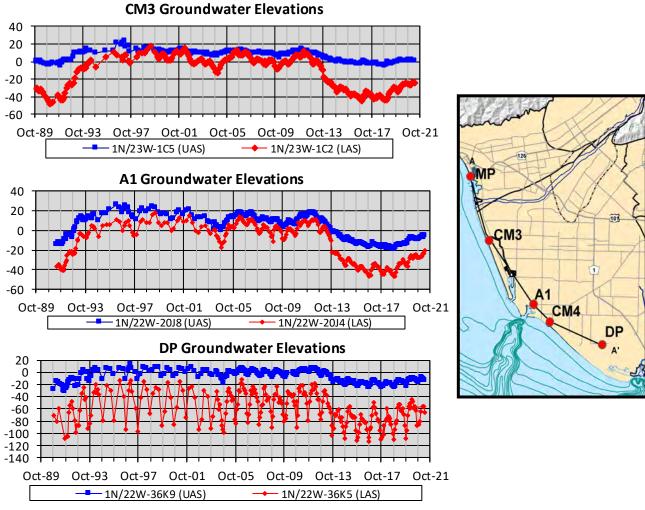


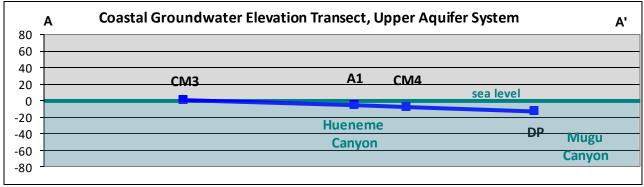
Pleasant Valley Basin Key Wells Groundwater Elevation Records

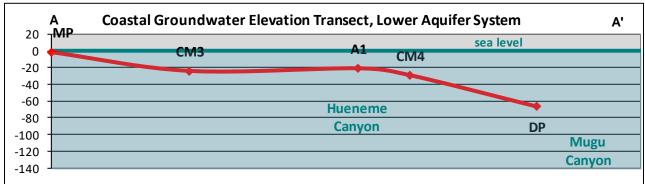




Oxnard Plain Coastal Key Wells—Nested Monitoring Wells

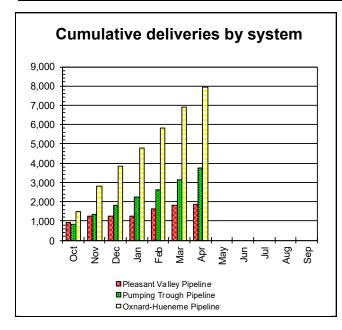


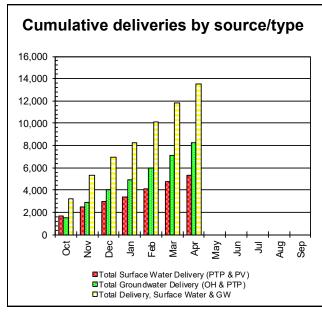




	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Mav	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
PV Pipeline (surface water)	902.5	329.0	13.4	16.9	372.0	174.2	64.7	iviuy	Juli	Jui	Aug	ЭСР
PV Pipeline (saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0					
Total to Pleasant Valley Pipeline	902.5	329.0	13.4	16.9	372.0	174.2	64.7					
Saticoy Well Field	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0					
PTP (surface water)	783.7	422.6	483.9	390.7	410.6	473.4	459.5					
PTP (groundwater)	24.8	92.3	19.0	0.6	4.9	9.4	164.7					
PTP (Saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0					
Total PTP	808.5	514.9	502.9	391.3	415.5	482.8	624.2					
O-H Pipeline (groundwater)	1,503.0	1,296.0	1,063.0	936.0	1,012.0	1,107.4	1,003.3					
Total Surface Water Delivery (PTP & PV)	1,686.2	751.6	497.3	407.6	782.6	647.6	524.2					
Total Groundwater Delivery (OH & PTP)	1,527.8	1,388.3	1,082.0	936.6	1,016.9	1,116.8	1,168.0					
Total Delivery, Surface Water & GW	3.214.0	2,139.9	1,579.3	1,344.2	1,799.5	1,764.4	1,692.2					

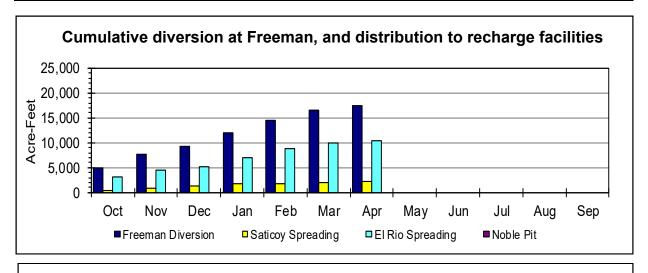
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
PV Pipeline (surface water)	902.5	1,231.5	1,244.9	1,261.7	1,633.7	1,807.9	1,872.6					
PV Pipeline (saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0					
Total to Pleasant Valley Pipeline	902.5	1,231.5	1,244.9	1,261.7	1,633.7	1,807.9	1,872.6					
Saticoy Well Field	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0					
PTP (surface water)	783.7	1,206.3	1,690.2	2,080.9	2,491.5	2,964.9	3,424.4					
PTP (groundwater)	24.8	117.1	136.1	136.7	141.6	151.0	315.7					
PTP (Saticoy well field)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0					
Total PTP	808.5	1,323.4	1,826.3	2,217.6	2,633.1	3,115.9	3,740.1					
O-H Pipeline (groundwater)	1,503.0	2,799.0	3,862.0	4,798.0	5,810.0	6,917.4	7,920.7					
Total Surface Water Delivery (PTP & PV)	1,686.2	2,437.8	2,935.1	3,342.6	4,125.2	4,772.8	5,297.0					
Total Groundwater Delivery (OH & PTP)	1,527.8	2,916.1	3,998.1	4,934.7	5,951.6	7,068.4	8,236.4					
Total Delivery, Surface Water & GW	3,214.0	5,353.9	6,933.2	8,277.4	10,076.9	11,841.3	13,533.5					



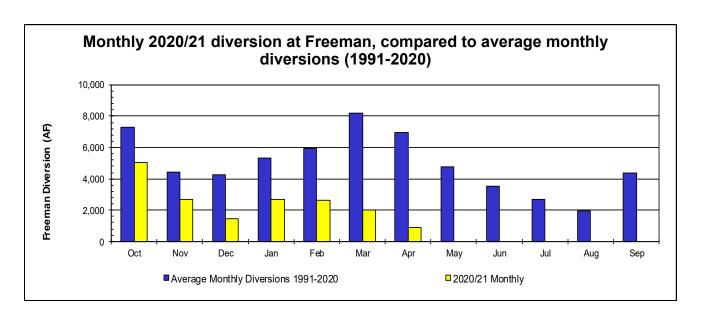


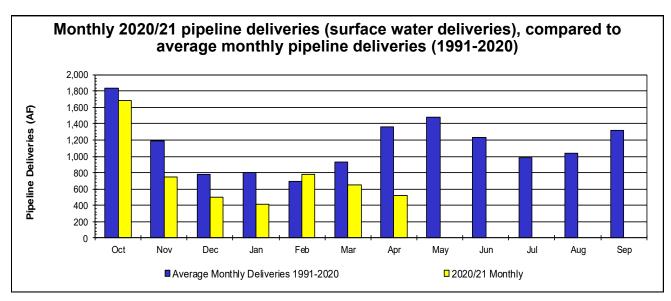
Month	Piru Spreading	Freeman Diversion	Saticoy Spreading	El Rio Spreading	Noble Pit
Oct	0	5,073	365	3,155	0
Nov	0	2,661	612	1,366	0
Dec	0	1,477	392	634	0
Jan	0	2,703	374	1,960	0
Feb	0	2,620	47	1,798	0
Mar	0	2,007	331	1,092	0
Apr	0	876	74	317	0
May					
Jun					
Jul					
Aug					
Sep					

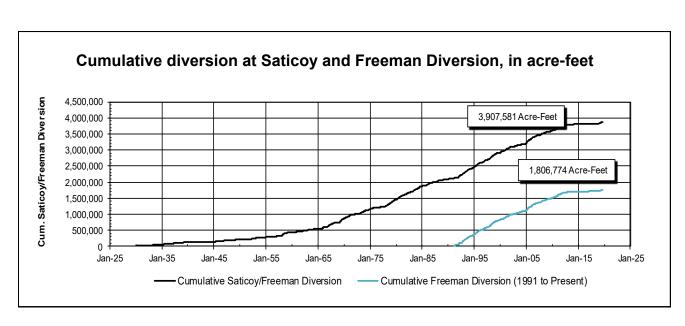
Cı	Cumulative diversion and recharge totals by facility, 2020/21, in acre-feet										
Month	Piru Spreading	Freeman Diversion	Saticoy Spreading	El Rio Spreading	Noble Pit						
Oct	0	5,073	365	3,155	0						
Nov	0	7,734	977	4,521	0						
Dec	0	9,211	1,369	5,155	0						
Jan	0	11,914	1,743	7,115	0						
Feb	0	14,534	1,790	8,913	0						
Mar	0	16,541	2,121	10,005	0						
Apr	0	17,417	2,195	10,322	0						
May											
Jun											
Jul											
Aug											
Sep											

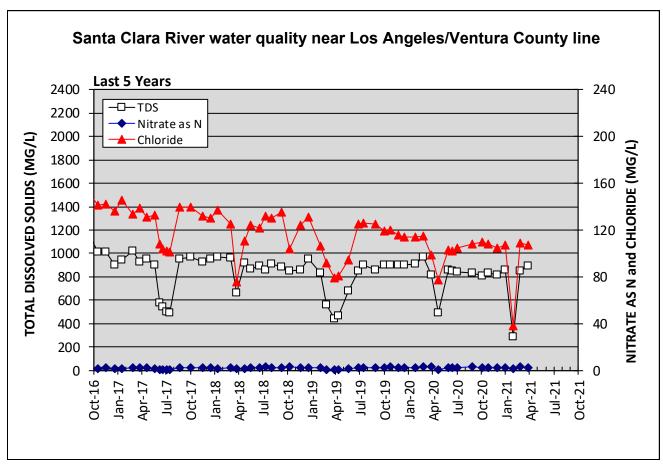


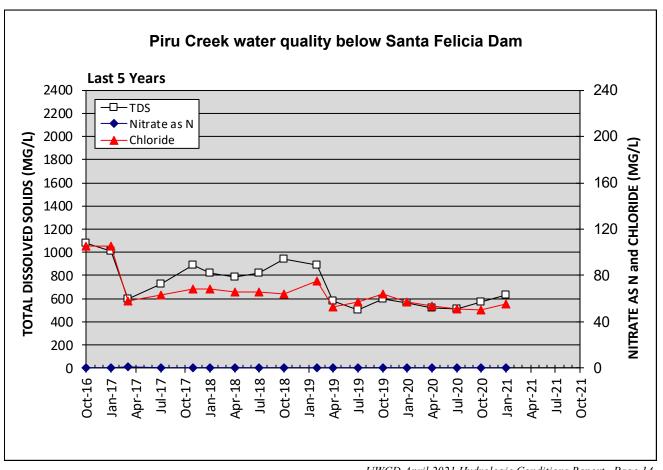
Cumulative diversions to Piru Spreading Grounds, 2020/21 = 0 AF

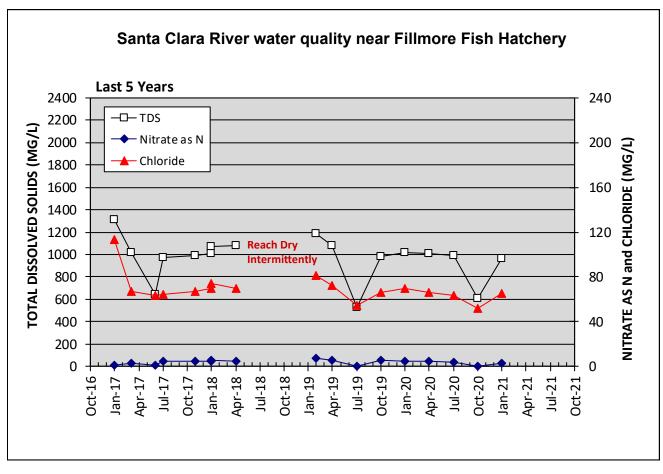


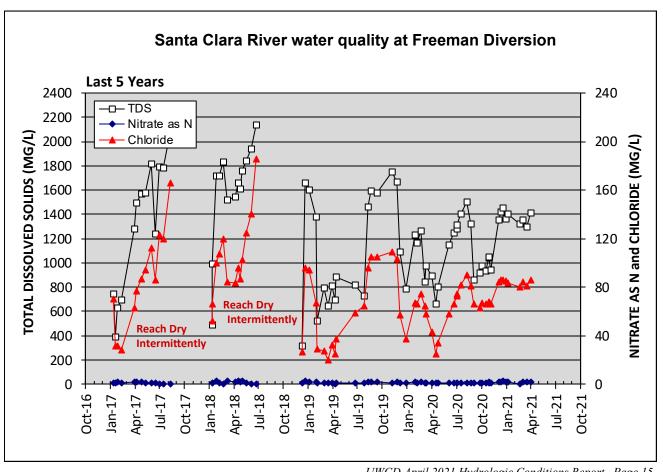


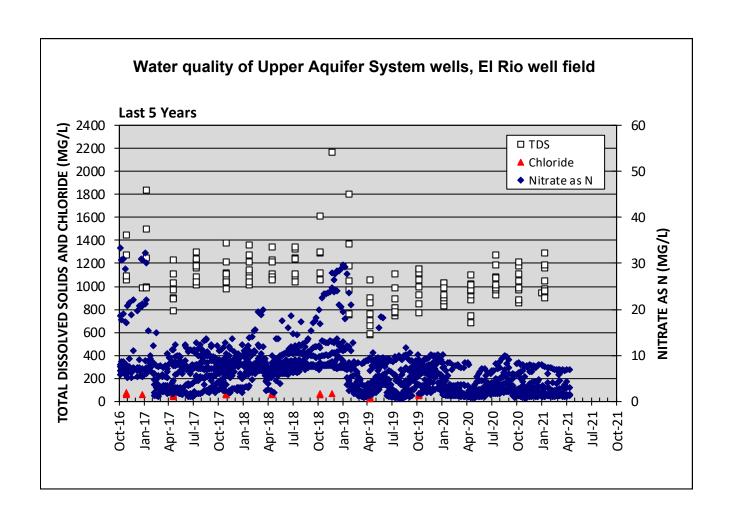


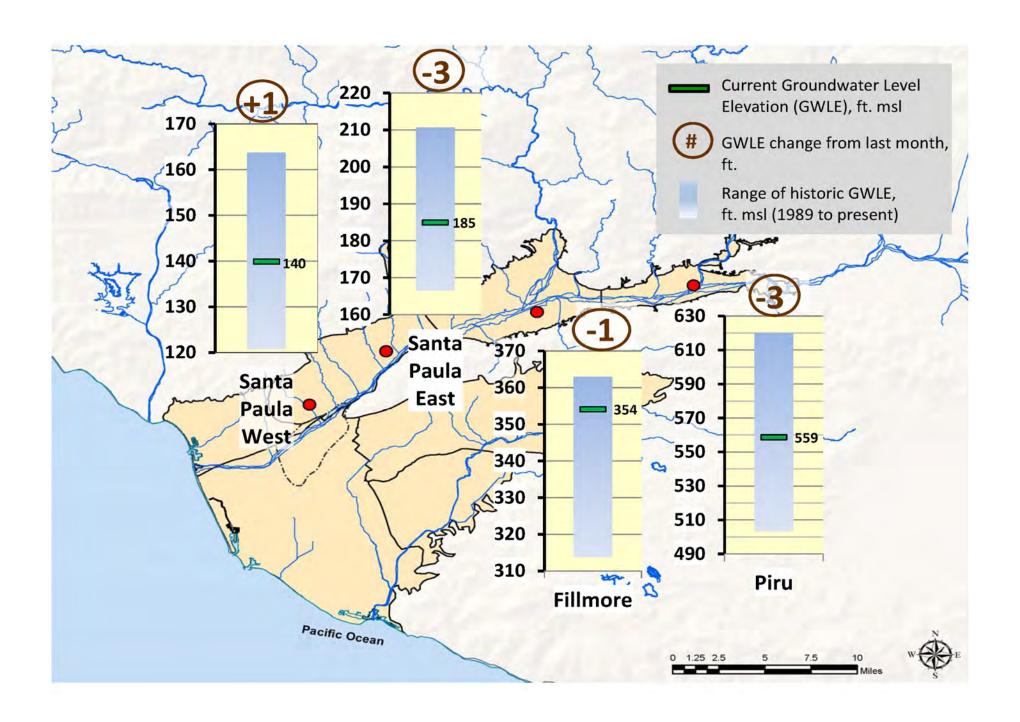


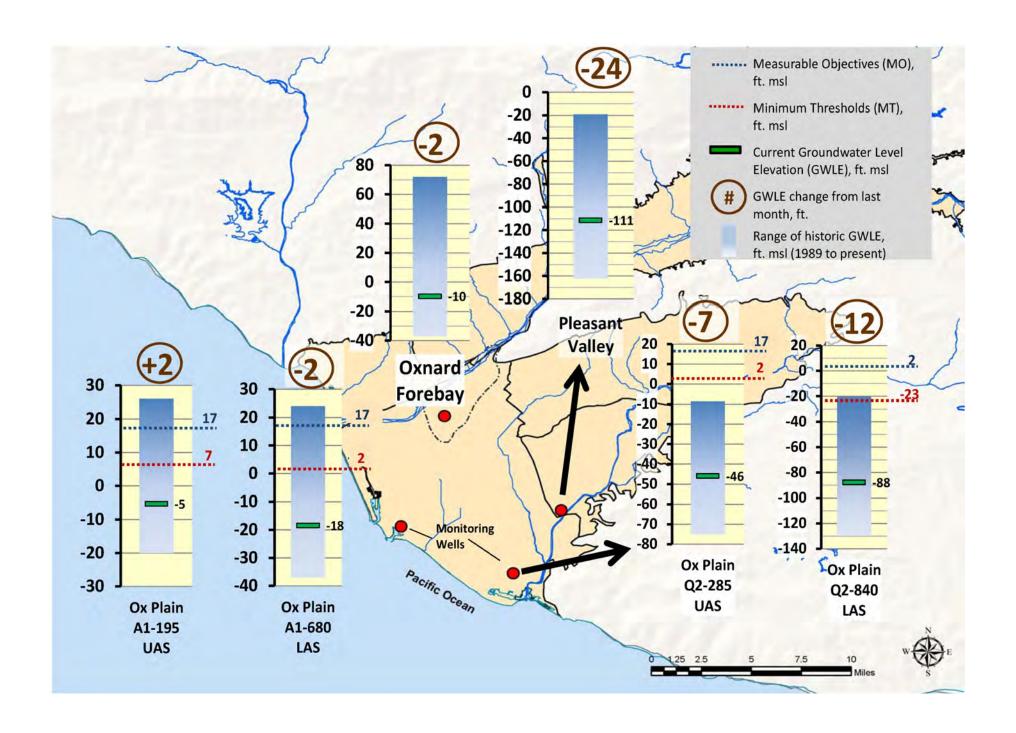


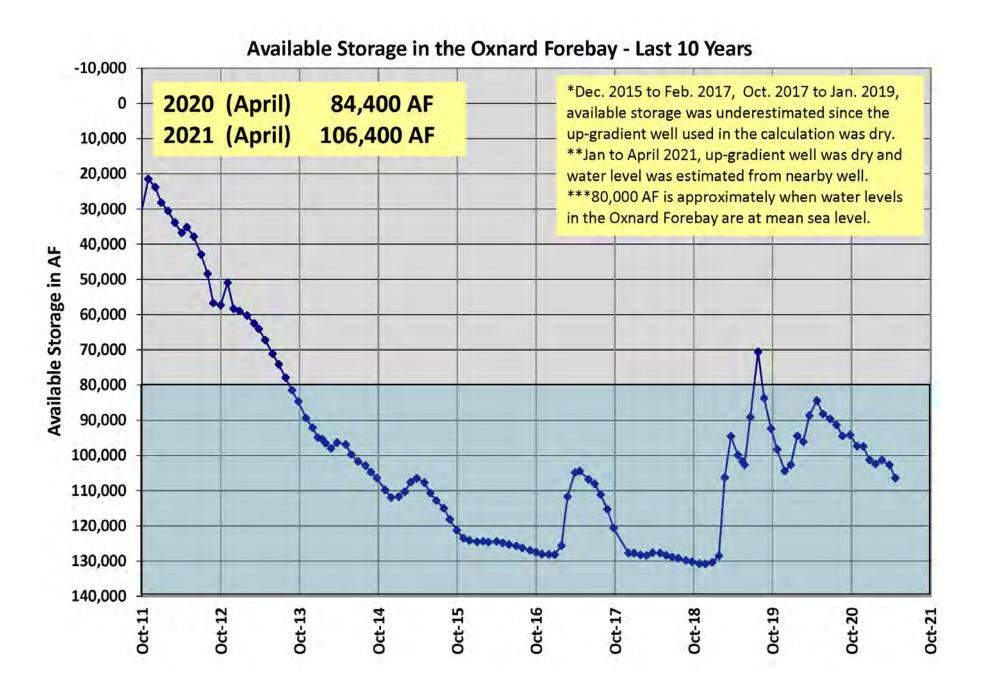


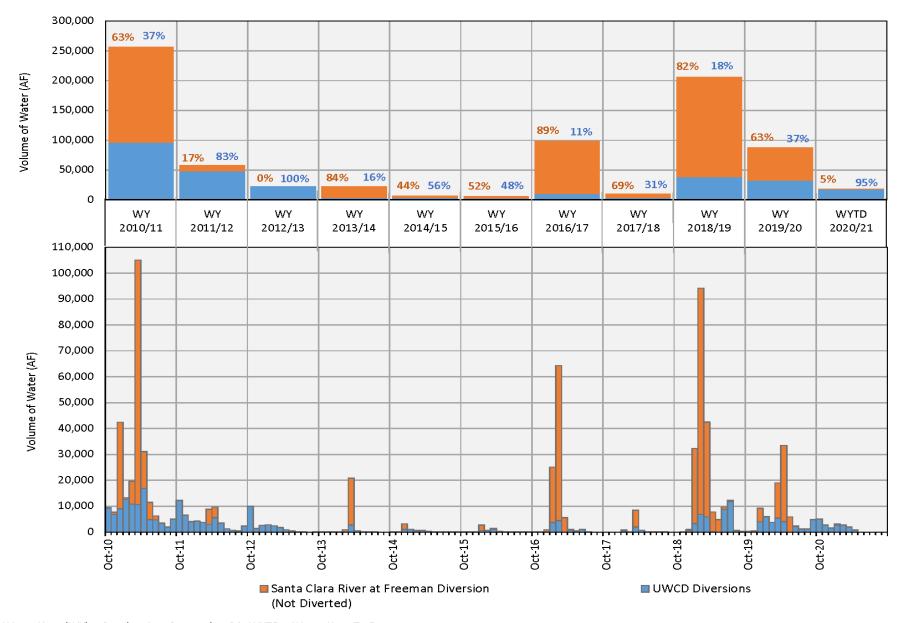












Water Year (WY) = October 1 to September 30; WYTD = Water Year To Date



To: UWCD Board of Directors

Through: Mauricio E. Guardado Jr., General Manager

Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager

From: Joseph Jereb, Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 19, 2021 (May 12, 2021 meeting)

Agenda Item: 3.C Monthly (March 31, 2021) Investment Report

Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will review and discuss the most current investment report for March 31, 2021 that is enclosed.

Discussion:

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

Fiscal Impact:

As shown.

Attachments: Combined Investment Report

United Water Conservation District Monthly Investment Report March 31, 2021

		Weighted Avg Days to	Diversification Percentage
Investment Recap	G/L Balance	Maturity	of Total
Bank of the Sierra	2,080,074	1	4.02%
Union Bank - 2020 COP Bond Balance	19,006,332	1	36.76%
Petty Cash	1,800	1	0.00%
County Treasury	1,444	1	0.00%
LAIF Investments	30,608,927	1	59.20%
Total Cash, Cash Equivalents and Securities	51,698,578		100.00%
Investment Portfolio w/o Trustee Held Funds	51,698,578		
Trustee Held Funds	-		
Total Funds	51,698,578		

Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)	Beginning Balance 31,808,927	Deposits (Disbursements) (1,200,000)	Ending Balance 30,608,927
	Interest	Interest	
	Earned YTD	Received YTD	Qtrly Yield
	131,593	200,267	0.44%

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: Mauricio Guardado 360235000827455	4/26/2021
Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr., General Manager	Date Certified
DocuSigned by: 70D59ECF0D8D46E	4/26/2021
Anthony Emmert, Assistant General Manager	Date Certified
Joseph Jerch	4/26/2021
Joseph Jereb, Chief Financial Officer	Date Certified

Total District Cash & Investments

	United	d Water Conservation Di	istrict				
		Cash Position					
March 31, 2021							
Fund	Total	Composition	Restrictions/Designations				
General/Water Conservation Fund:			Revenue collected for district operations				
General/Water Conservation	15,082,666	5,945,887	Includes General, Rec & Ranger, Water Conservation				
		1,725,000	Reserved for legal expenditures				
		5,435,000	Designated for replacement, capital improvements, and environmental projects				
		1,976,779	Supplemental Water Purchase Fund				
General CIP Funds	3,287,537	3,287,537	Appropriated for capital projects				
2020 COP Bond Funds	17,727,028	17,727,028	Reserved for CIP Projects				
Special Revenue Funds:			Revenue collected for a special purpose				
State Water Project Funds	3,183,303	3,183,303	Procurement of water/rights from state water project				
Enterprise Funds:			Restricted to fund usage				
Freeman Fund	1,144,571	1,144,571	Operations, Debt Service and Capital Projects				
		-	Designated for replacement and capital improvements				
		-	Reserved for legal expenditures				
Freeman CIP Fund	3,476,386	3,476,386	Appropriated for capital projects				
OH Pipeline Fund	2,350,744	2,350,744	Delivery of water to OH customers				
OH CIP Fund	1,628,677	1,628,677	Appropriated for capital projects				
OH Pipeline Well Replacement Fund	998,774	998,774	Well replacement fund				
PV Pipeline Fund	468,744	468,744	Delivery of water to PV customers				
PV CIP Fund	277,356	277,356	Appropriated for capital projects				
PT Pipeline Fund	1,446,846	1,446,846	Delivery of water to PTP customers				
PT CIP Fund	625,947	625,947	Appropriated for capital projects				

51,698,578

51,698,578



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: April 27, 2021 (May 12, 2020 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 3.D FY 2020-21 Third Quarter Financial Report and Budget Amendments

Motion Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and review the FY 2020-21 Third Quarter Financial Report for the period of July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 and consider approving proposed budget adjustments.

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 nine months of financial information for District operations for FY 2020-21 (or 75 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. The following budget modifications are being recommended as of the third quarter review:

General/Water Conservation Fund

Staff recommends increasing budgeted revenue for Water Delivery by \$800,000 due to increased deliveries to all three pipelines in FY 20-21.

Staff recommends decreasing Professional Fees for Environmental Services by \$350,000. The amount of funding needed for quagga mussels has decreased with a shift away from eradication to population control. Work on FERC – Fish Passage has slowed down because of legal concerns and covid restrictions.

Staff recommends increasing the budget for Legal Fees \$1,031,000 due to higher than anticipated fees for the Ventura and Wishtoyo litigation, OPV, as well as District general legal counsel.

Freeman Fund

Staff recommends increasing budgeted revenue for Water Delivery by \$500,000 due to increased deliveries to all three pipelines in FY 20-21.

Staff recommends increasing the budget for Legal Fees by \$1,020,000 due to higher than anticipated fees for Wishtoyo and Ventura litigation.

Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline, Pleasant Valley Pipeline, and Pumping Trough Pipeline Funds
Staff recommends increasing budgeted revenue for water delivery by \$600,000, \$170,000 and \$200,000, respectively, because of increased pipeline deliveries in FY 20-21.9

Revenues		
050-910-42010	800,000	Water Conservation Fund – Water Delivery
420-910-42010	500,000	Freeman Fund – Water Delivery
450-910-42010	600,000	OH Pipeline Fund – Water Delivery
460-910-42010	170,000	Pleasant Valley Pipeline Fund – Water Delivery
470-910-42010	290,000	PT Pipeline – Water Delivery
		-
<u>Expenses</u>		
050-100-52500	115,000	Water Conservation Fund – Legal Fees, Appointed
050-100-52500	251,000	Water Conservation Fund – Legal Fees, Specialist
050-100-52510	500,000	Water Conservation Fund – Legal Fees, Specialist
050-600-52500	(15,000)	Water Conservation Fund – Legal Fees, Appointed
050-600-52510	180,000	Water Conservation Fund – Legal Fees, Specialist
050-600-52220	(350,000)	Water Conservation Fund – Professional Fees
400 100 50510		
420-100-52510	620,000	Freeman Fund – Legal Fees, Specialist
420-100-52510 420-600-52510	620,000 400,000	Freeman Fund – Legal Fees, Specialist Freeman Fund – Legal Fees, Specialist

Attachments: A – FY 2020-21 Third Quarter Report, Capital Improvement Projects

B – FY 2020-21 Third Quarter Financial Reports



April 29, 2021

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

Board of Directors United Water Conservation District

Subject: Fiscal Year 2020-21 Third Quarter Financial Report

Dear Board Members:

Enclosed for your review is the District's FY 2020-21 Third Quarter (July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021) Financial Report. This report represents nine months of financial information for District operations (75% 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 April 30, 2021, 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 targeted Well No. 6 in the 2020-21 Fiscal Year. Staff released a request for construction bids for El Rio Water Well No. 19, replacing Well No. 6, on December 22 (Spec. No. 20-05).

Staff received three (3) bids on January 21, 2021 from Best Drilling and Pump, Inc., Nor-Cal Pump & Well Drilling, Inc., and Zim Industries. The bid prices ranged from \$450,774 to \$604,874. Upon review of the bids, staff recommended an award of a construction contract to Best Drilling and Pump, Inc. (Best) at the February 10, 2021 Board of Directors meeting. The contract with Best was executed on March 9, 2021 in the amount of \$450,774. Construction is expected to be complete by mid-May. In March, Best completed the pilot hole. In April, Best completed the construction of the well and will start developing the well in the beginning of May. Best will also complete destruction of Well No. 6. The District issued a change order to Best in March for \$38,583.11 to install a 30-in ream instead of the specified 26-inch ream at a deeper depth to increase the well production. A second change order in the amount of approximately \$12,000 is expected to be awarded to Best in May. The second change order is related to Well No. 6 destruction.

• 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.

On January 25, 2021, staff and DFW had a conference call to discuss their comments on the physical model plan. On February 2 and 5, UWCD, USBR, NMFS, CDFW, Dr. Weber, Stantec, and NHC had conference calls to discuss USBR's updated physical modeling plan. Following approval from the Board of Directors at the January 13, 2021 Board Meeting, United executed two contract amendments with NHC (\$125,595) and Stantec (\$403,879) for continued technical support during physical modeling. On February 8, staff delivered USBR's updated Physical Model Plan to NMFS and CDFW. In March, USBR commenced the physical model design and provided staff with drawings of the proposed 1:24 scale Hardened Ramp. In April, USBR created space in their laboratory for one of the 1:24 scale physical models. Additionally, NHC continued to develop the alternative for the Hardened Ramp. The District entered into a Professional Services Agreement with NHC on April 21. The contract amount in the amount of \$199,550.00 will allow NHC to prepare design alternatives and assess the feasibility of the design alternatives in order to improve and increase the diversion capacity at the Freeman Diversion. The contract term ends on October 31, 2021.

• Santa Felicia Dam Outlet Works Rehabilitation (CIP Project # 8002) – This project is funded by the Water Conservation Activities subfund (Zone A). 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. The PSA 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 the development of the 2020 Drilling Program Plan (DPP) and the subsurface exploration field activity. 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, 2020. GEI prepared and submitted draft Geotechnical Data Report (GDR) that summarizes the findings of the 2020 subsurface exploration program on April 2, 2021. As of March 31, 2021, the DPP portion of this project was 95% complete and the design portion was 32% complete.

On January 6, 2021, staff met with OPS staff and GEI to review the 30% design of the new outlet works. On February 10, an internal meeting with OPS was held to discuss the design components. Following the February 10 meeting, staff provided recommendations to GEI to be incorporated in the 30% design. A second workshop with GEI will be held on May 13 to review design modifications and finalize staff recommendations. The 30% design documents 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 filed a request for time extension with FERC on February 23. If approved, the project would be extended by approximately two years.

Staff continued the work on the FERC license amendment application and the NEPA documentation. Staff submitted a letter to the Water Board on January 26 requesting a pre-filing meeting. A pre-filing meeting with the Water Board took place on February 22. The Water Board met with staff and Catalyst again on February 25 and requested the District to proceed with the refiling of the 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) application to the Water Board and defer the filing of the 404 certification to the Army Corps of Engineers by approximately nine months after the 401 WQC is filed. Staff submitted the 401 WQC application to the Water Board on March 1 and notified FERC of the filing.

On April 22, staff attended the technical assistance virtual meeting with FERC and NMFS to discuss the conceptual design of the new channel connecting the discharge of the new outlet works to the Lower Piru Creek. A workshop with FERC and NMFS is scheduled for June 10. The purpose of the workshop is for the District to present the preliminary design of the new channel. The new channel design once is more advanced will be included in the revised draft Biological Assessment (BA) report and submitted to FERC.

• Santa Felicia Dam Probable Maximum Flood Containment (CIP Project # 8003) — This project is funded by the Water Conservation Activities sub fund (Zone A). A PSA 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. The DPP field activities were completed on November 14, 2020. GEI prepared and submitted draft Geotechnical Data Report (GDR) that summarizes the findings of the 2020 subsurface exploration program on April 2, 2021. Staff began review of the draft GDR that summarizes the results of the 2020 subsurface exploration program.

Staff reviewed multiple Technical Memorandums (TM) and provided comments to GEI to be incorporated in the final Supplemental 10% Design packet. This including, Hydraulic Analysis TMs, Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3, Seismic Analysis TM, Dam Crest Raise Seepage TM, and Wall Structural Analysis TM. Staff also reviewed the 60% submittal plans for the spillway Heel Drain Cleanout. Staff is currently in the process of reviewing the 90% submittal plans and specifications.

In response to FERC's letter dated January 6, 2021 and a follow up letter to FERC by the District on February 5, 2021, staff requested Gannett Fleming (GF) to reevaluate GEI's 2015 Seismic Deformation Study that concluded Santa Felicia Dam is not subject to liquefaction. On March 31, staff submitted a follow-up response letter to FERC along with the technical memorandum by GF and concluded that the evaluation of the Santa Felicia Dam liquefaction potential is considered finalized at this time.

Staff filed a letter with FERC requesting a project time extension on February 23. The proposed project schedule will extend the project completion by two years. FERC has indicated that the request for time extension will be evaluated, and a formal response will be provided to the District.

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 March 31, 2021, the design portion of the project is 57% complete.

• Santa Felicia Dam Sediment Management (CIP Project # 8005) – On October 20th, 2020 staff met with GEI to finalize the scope of the study. Staff received the final proposal from GEI, and the District executed a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with GEI for the Santa Felicia Dam Sediment Removal Study on March 17, 2021 (\$69,400). GEI submitted a sediment sampling plan to the District on March 26, 2021. The plan outlines the sampling and testing protocols for collecting sediment samples at five (5) locations in the Lake Piru Reservoir. The sampling will be in the dry, as the selected locations are currently in the dry above the reservoir surface elevation. The sediment sampling will help determine laboratory analyzed physical and chemical properties of the lake bottom sediment at various locations and depths. Because the

sampling will take place in California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdictions, the District will need to acquire the respective environmental permits from these agencies prior to the work. Engineering staff will coordinate with the Environmental Services Department for this permitting effort. Once the permits are in place, the District will proceed with the sediment sampling in Summer 2021 with the support of a local geotechnical firm.

• 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 Assemblymember 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 WCVC. 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.

In January 2021, 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). Staff then received notice that DWR plans on executing the grant agreement in June 2021. On February 25, 2021 Engineering and Finance staff attended the Prop 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Management Kickoff Meeting hosted by DWR. On March 24, 2021, DWR clarified that all projects need to have all construction related-permits in place before the grant agreement is executed or be reclassified as "placeholder" projects until permits have been obtained. Staff is now working to complete all construction related permits by June 1, 2021.

In January 2021, staff coordinated with the Ventura County Fire Department (VCFD) and incorporated comments into the 100% design plans. Staff performed fire flow testing and submitted passing results to the VCFD as part of the fire flow verification process and permitting effort for the proposed building. On January 22, 2021, the District received the stamped and signed 100% design plans, specifications and estimate from Kennedy/Jenks Consultants. On March 31, 2021, staff selected Phoenix Civil Engineering, Inc. (Santa Paula) to prepare the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) under the Construction General Permit. This was done through a task order (\$9,980) under the On-Call Services Agreement. On March 18, 2021, staff submitted final comments on the stamped and signed 100% design plans (Plans) and continued to review the Plans, specifications and estimate from Kennedy/Jenks Consultants. On April 14, 2021, staff confirmed with Ventura County Public Works staff that the project is exempt from grading permit requirements.

On March 5, 2021, staff issued a Request for Qualifications/Proposals to select consultants for Construction Management (CM) and Inspection Services. One additional addendum was issued to extend the statement of qualifications/proposal due date to April 23, 2021. On April 23, 2021, staff received four (4) Statements of Qualifications/Proposals in response to the Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFQ/P) for Construction Management (CM) and Inspection Services. On May 5, 2021, staff held a workshop to select consultants for interviews in response to the RFQ/P for CM and Inspection Services.

On March 30, 2021, staff prepared the semi-annual progress report for the WaterSmart grant (USBR). On April 21, 2021, staff prepared and submitted the semi-annual progress report for the WaterSmart Grant (USBR).

- 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.

On January 28, February 23, March 23, and April 29, 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 efforts under the Proposition 1 grant and six-month outlook. Navy staff provided information on potential sea level rise and climate change impacts at Naval Base Ventura County Point Mugu. Staff discussed additional data requests and planning for subsurface geotechnical exploration. On February 18, 2021, Maryam Bral and Nathan Jacobsen (U.S. Navy staff) presented a project update to the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County.

In February 2021, Engineering staff assisted Environmental Services staff in preparation of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consultant services for CEQA/NEPA documentation and processing. On April 21, 2021 Environmental Services staff issued a Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFQ/P) for Consultant Services for CEQA Documentation and Processing. Engineering staff provided support. Proposals are due on May 21, 2021.

On March 29, 2021, Board President Michael Mobley, Mauricio Guardado, Maryam Bral, Dan Detmer, Robert Richardson and Yan Qu with Trussell Technologies met with U.S. Navy staff at the Seawater Desalination Test Facility (SDTF) located on Naval Base Ventura County Port Hueneme. The objective of the tour was to better understand the Navy's testing facilities and capabilities which could facilitate small scale pilot testing for the project in the near future.

In March 2021, Engineering staff tasked Trussell Technologies with attending the SDTF tour, conducting an extended desktop treatment process modeling evaluation (\$80,000) that will be used in the development of a test plan for future pilot scale testing. A Notice to Proceed was issued to Trussel Technologies on April 22, 2021.

On April 26, 2021, staff received, compiled and reviewed fourth quarter special sampling results that was conducted at select monitoring wells on Naval Base Ventura County Point Mugu in March 2021.

• 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.

In March, staff received the 95% plans and specifications for utilities relocation, including the District's 30-inch pipeline. Staff is currently reviewing the design documents and is planning to provide comments to Kennedy Jenks in May. Per the design documents, approximately 800 linear feet (LF) of the exiting 30-in concrete cylinder pipe will be replaced with cement mortar lined and coated steel, 5/16-in thick. The new pipe will have two isolation valves and a 24-in access for inspection. In addition, the new segment will have a blow off system and a combination air vacuum valve. In addition, the 8-in irrigation pipe from Turn Out No. 129, located north of the PTP Well Site No. 4, will be abandoned in place, and replaced with new 1256 LF 8-in C-900 DR-25 irrigation line. The new line will be routed along the Old Rice Avenue and turn easterly along 5th Street and will be encased in a 20-in steel casing where it crosses the new East Connector Rd east of the new Rice Avenue.

• 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.

O&M made progress to resolve communication issues with the equipment supplier and radio manufacturer and also set-up a test site at PTP Well No. 2. On March 24, staff prepared the progress report for Invoice No. 9 to the Department of Water Resources for reimbursement under the Proposition 1 Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Grant. The total State funds expended to date is \$425,287.50. As of April 30, 28 of 61 (46%) meters have been installed and 14 of 41 (34.1%) easement acquisitions have been obtained. In April, staff negotiated with right-of-way acquisition consultant Hamner, Jewell & Associates and subconsultant Stantec on the scope of work and fee for finalizing easement documents at seven (7) turnout locations that were partially prepared by Jensen Design & Survey.

• Pothole Trailhead (CIP Project #8023) – Final completion of the project was achieved on January 7, 2021. A notice of completion was recorded with the Ventura County Recorder's Office. On February 22, staff conducted a coordination meeting with the USFS to discuss the opening of the Juan Fernandez gate and Piru Canyon Road beyond. The USFS decided to move forward with opening of the Juan Fernandez Gate on March 1, 2021. The Pothole Trailhead Parking area will now be accessible to the public by motorized vehicle. District Ranger staff are prepared to operate and maintain the facility as well as patrol the newly open stretch of Piru Canyon Road on a frequent basis. The District is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the facility in perpetuity. A Notice of Completion was e-filed with FERC on March 1, 2021 to provide confirmation that the District has fulfilled its obligations per Article 411 of the FERC License.

The next steps would be for the District to execute an easement to the Forest Service in perpetuity for the public use of the trailhead parking area as well as the stretches of the Pothole Trail that traverse District Property. Districts legal counsel has begun work to draft these two documents. In addition, staff have been working with the Forest Service to develop content for an interpretative sign structure. The sign structure will be installed in June 2021.

• 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 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 been 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 (City) on December 13. Staff reviewed the agreement and provided comments to the City on January 13, 2021.

Staff received the official final draft copy of the SWP Interconnection Joint Agencies Agreement (Agreement) from the City of Ventura on February 16. The Agreement included United's the latest comments by United, Casitas Municipal Water District and Calleguas Municipal Water District.

The City staff presented the Agreement to the Ventura Water Commission on February 23 and was requested to add two revisions to the Agreement, a "Dispute Resolution" clause and a better definition for "reasonable judgement" in Section 11- Protection of Facilities of the Agreement. The Water Commission otherwise recommended the City Council to consider approving the revised Agreement. The City invited the other three parties to provide their suggestions for the requested revisions. The City staff modified the Agreement accordingly and provided the revised draft Agreement to United and Casitas on April 13.

Engineering Staff is planning to present the modified draft Agreement to the Engineering and Operations Committee, then to the Board of Directors for their approval in May. Staff attended the March 5th project progress meeting with the City of Ventura, Casitas, Stantec and HDR Engineers. Stantec discussed the project progress, including the completion of the topographic survey north of Santa Clara River and continued corrosion analysis and testing in the northern segment of the proposed alignment), upcoming geotechnical borings in Santa Clara River and a proposed alignment included in a draft technical memorandum (TM). Staff will review the draft TM and provide comments to the City.

In addition, the final hearing for the CWIN lawsuit which was scheduled for March 15 was postponed to April 12. The judge ruling is supposed to be made available no later than 90 days from the date of the final hearing date. Calleguas will be waiting on the judge ruling on the CWIN case before presenting the draft agreement to their Board, Casitas may want to wait on the approval of Casitas Comprehensive Water Resources Plan before presenting the draft Agreement to their Board. Approval by the City Council will be the final step.

- 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.

DOD Construction began start construction of the Grand Canal hydraulic improvements on April 15 and has begun submitting submittals for the work, the anticipated completion date is end of June.

- 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:
 - o Potential distribution and use of excess Conejo Creek surface water diversions of up to 2,500 acre-feet per year.
 - o 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.

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.
- o Construction contract with Speiss Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$4,167,000 for the ASR (Aquifer Storage Recovery) Well No. 1 (Rebid) Project.
- o 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. In February 2021, staff prepared a data request to assist in the quantification of available recycled water within the Camrosa Water District (Camrosa) and Camarillo Sanitary District (CSD) service areas. The data request will facilitate future discussions with Camrosa, CSD and the Pleasant Valley County District (PVCWD).

Oxnard Hueneme System Backup Generator (CIP #8036) – At the January 13, 2021 Board meeting, the Board approved staff to file a CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE), subsequently the NOE was filed on January 19. On January 15th, 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 invitation for bids for purchasing a new 800kW diesel powered emergency generator and 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. On February 1, staff submitted a reimbursement request in the amount of \$2,160.29 to CalOES and received Notification of Payment from CalOES on February 16. Also on February 1, staff received two quotations for the new generator from Quinn Electric (Quinn) and from Cummins. After completing the selection process, staff accepted Quinn's quotation which was \$12,162.69 less than Cummin's quote and issued a purchase order in the amount of \$203,159.65 to Quinn on February 24 for the purchase of the new generator.

On February 17, staff issued Addendum No. 3 which shifted the responsibilities related to the removal of the existing 750 kW diesel generator from the Contractor to the District.

On February 22, the District received three bids from Oilfield Electric, Pacific Industrial Electric and Taft Electric. Staff identified the lowest responsive bidder to be Oilfield Electric and Motor (Oilfield) and made a recommendation to the Board of Directors. On March 10, following the Board of Directors approval, staff issued a notice of award to Oilfield for construction of the project. The contract agreement (Agreement) with Oilfield was fully executed on March 24.

On March 26, staff prepared and submitted to CalOES a request for budget increase and time extension. Staff requested a budget increase of \$165,784.00 to the current grant amount to accommodate the revised project cost estimate. In addition, due to the anticipated long lead time for the electrical equipment and per CalOES recommendation, staff submitted a request to extend the project completion due date by four (4) months (to December 24, 2021). However, staff will continue pursuing August 26, 2021 as the project completion date.

On April 1, staff issued Change Order No. 1 to the Agreement in order to adjust the project duration from thirty-eight (38) working days to one hundred and one (101) working days. Adjustment to the project time will allow Oilfield to immediately start the procurement and submittal process of the long lead electrical equipment to ensure the availability of the equipment and to prevent any delays in manufacturing and delivery due to COVID-19 uncertainties. Change Order No.1 will not impact the project completion date by August 26, 2021 nor the original construction contract cost. On April 2, staff issued a notice to proceed to Oilfield. A virtual pre-construction meeting was held between staff, Oilfield, Phoenix Civil Engineering (project construction manager), and Lucci & Associates (project design consultant).

On April 15, staff prepared and submitted the second quarterly report covering the period from January 1 to March 31, 2021 to CalOES. On April 21, the existing generator was removed. The second reimbursement request in an amount of \$72,888.65 was submitted to CalOES on April 24. Staff followed-up with CalOES on the budget increase and the time extension requests. As of April 29, Oilfield prepared and submitted a total of 18 of 22 submittals of the long lead items. The submittals were reviewed by staff, the project construction manager, and the design consultant. The responses to these submittals were sent to Oilfield to proceed accordingly.

Staff and the project team coordinated meeting with Southern California Edison (SCE) to discuss the power shutdown during construction. The meeting will be held on May 4 at the project site. Additionally, On April 14 and 28, staff prepared and submitted an Outage Request Form and a Request for Actual Short Circuit Duty or Data for an Arc Flash Study to SCE.

• Emergency Power Supply for UWCD Drinking Water Treatment and Supply Facilities

Staff's application for the CalOES Grant Program for Community Power Resiliency Allocation to Special Districts that was submitted in 2020 was successfully accepted for the grant. The grant award of \$198,612 was received in March 2021. This will allow the District to install small backup generators at the Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant, at the Flocculation Building and at the Santa Paula Communication Tower. Staff has prepared Motion Item No. 4.5 for Board's consideration requesting the Board considers approving the CEQA Notice of Categorical Exemption determination for the project.

CASH POSITION AND INVESTMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

As of March 31, 2021, the District had a total of just over \$ 51.7M 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:

Mar 31, 2021	Mar 31, 2020
\$ 30,608,927	\$ 28,775,519
\$ 19,006,332	\$ 0
\$ 0	\$ 815,685
\$ 2,080,074	\$ 2,437,072
\$ 1,444 \$ 1,800 \$ 51,698,578	\$ 392 \$ 400 \$ 29,755,225
	\$ 30,608,927 \$ 19,006,332 \$ 0 \$ 2,080,074 \$ 1,444 \$ 1,800

Approximately \$815K was held by Union Bank as trustee in reserve for future debt payments March 31, 2020 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 \$32.7M 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



July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

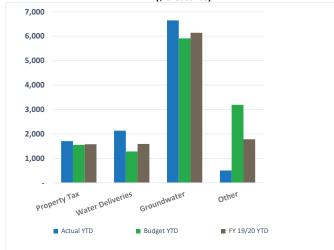
75% of Fiscal Year Completed

General/Water Conservation Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
Revenues							
Water Delivery	2,133	1,283	851	66%	1,589	544	34%
Groundwater	6,648	5,915	732	0%	6,141	507	8%
Supplemental Water	0	0	0	0%	1,840	(1,840)	0%
Property Taxes	1,707	1,548	159	10%	1,576	132	8%
Earnings on Investments	25	79	(53)	-68%	268	(243)	-91%
Other	610	3,194	(2,584)	-81%	1,782	(1,172)	-66%
Transfers in		0	0	0%	2	(2)	0%
Total Revenues	11,123	12,018	(895)	-7%	13,198	(2,075)	-16%
Expenses							
Personnel Costs	3,472	3,492	(20)	-1%	3,205	267	8%
Operating Expenditures	5,044	7,140	(2,096)	-29%	6,117	(1,072)	-18%
Capital Outlay	394	522	(128)	-24%	54	341	633%
Transfers out	499	3,382	(2,883)	-85%	3,264	(2,765)	-85%
Total Expenses	9,409	14,537	(5,128)	-35%	12,639	(3,230)	-26%
Net Surplus / (Shortfall)	1,714	(2,519)	4,233	-168%	559	1,155	207%

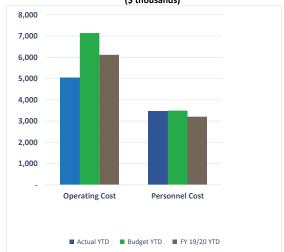
Revenues

(\$ thousands)



Expenses





Revenue Status vs. Budget

- Revenue received through third quarter \$895K (\$7%) below Plan primarily due to proceeds from financing of \$2.9M which will be allocated in Q4, offset by groundwater revenue \$732K above Plan and pipeline deliveries \$851K above Plan. 8,092 AF more delivered than Plan for three pipelines combined including 3,106 AF more for PV
- Property taxes \$159K above plan.
- Earnings on investments were \$70K under plan due to a GAAP market value adjustment to LAIF of \$63K in addition to a steep reduction in the rate of return.
- Other Revenue increases included conservative budgeting of Hydroplant revenue \$57K, Lake Piru fees and reservations revenue \$90K and easement revenue \$30K from So Cal Gas.

Revenue Status vs. Prior Year

- Q3 Revenue \$2.1M (16%) lower than PY primarily due to Supplemental Water revenue of \$1.8M received for Fox Canyon GMA and and a refund of legal fees of \$1.3M.
- Offsetting the decrease in revenue were increases in pipeline (\$544K) and Groundwater \$507K deliveries. Additionally, there were current year recreation revenues of \$99K and none in the PY due to direct management of recreation activities by District staff rather than the use of a concessionaire. Lastly, property taxes are higher by \$132K in the current year.
- Earnings on investment \$243K lower than PY due to GAAP market value adjustment and lower market rates in the current year (2.03% to .44%).

July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

75% of Fiscal Year Completed

General/Water Conservation Fund - Continued

Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Budget

- Total Expenditures were \$5.1M (35%) under Plan primarily due transfers out for CIP \$2.9M, which will be allocated in Q4 after the issuance of the 2020 COPs. Contributing to the variance is savings in Professional Fees \$990K from the under-utilized Admin and Finance consulting budget and FERC Fish Passage and quagga expenditures which were significantly less than estimated. Finance profesional fees will be utilized in Q4 for annual rate analysis while Admin and Environmental expenses are expected to come in significantly under budget.
- Maintenance and Supplies were \$473K under budget. O&M and Recreation contributed to the variance due to fewer staff and staff spending less time in the field to due to Covid. Timing issues also contributed, some of which are expected to catch up by the end of the fiscal year. Other maintenance will not as the mild year translates to fewer emergencies. Travel expense also significantly under budget \$118K due to training being performed online.
- Overhead costs were \$383K under budget due to the vacant AGM position and lower consulting costs, plus Covid considerations and delays in invoicing. Staff
 expects the invoicing to catch up toward the fiscal year end while the personnel and Covid-related overhead underrun will remain under budget.
- Capital Outlays were \$128K under budget primarily due to funds recently budgeted to Recreation for customer operations. This is a timing issue which is expected to catch up by year end.

Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Prior Year

- Expenditures \$3.2M (26%) lower than PY. Primarily due to transfers out for CIP of \$2.9M which will be allocated in Q4, partially offset by higher personnel costs \$267K and capital expenditures \$341K compared to PY.
- Professional fees \$579K lower than PY. Charges for supplemental water are \$817K lower than in PY due to a larger purchase in FY 19-20 and the delay in billing by DWR for this year's supplemental water purchase. Decrease is slightly offset by an increase in legal fees \$241K in the current fiscal year. Principal and interest payments were down \$1.1M due to bonds 2001 2005 and 2009 refunded in November while financing costs were up \$653K due to payoff costs.
- Salary expenses were up \$267K due to COLA increase and more water staff time spent on water conservation activities compared to PY.
- Insurance premiums increased by \$62K and maintenance costs exceeded PY by \$48K. This was offset by lower travel costs (\$71K) due to covid and lower
 permit/licensing fees (\$60K) which staff believes should catch up by year end.
- Capital outlays were up \$341K due primarily to the Eddy Pump purchase along with new O&M service truck \$134K and recreation vehicles.

Fund Balance

The projected ending undesignated working capital balance at the end of FY 20 -21 is \$6.2M.

 $The \ District's \ reserve \ policy \ requires \ a \ \$4-\$5 \ million \ minimum \ undesignated \ balance \ which \ is \ projected \ to \ be \ met.$



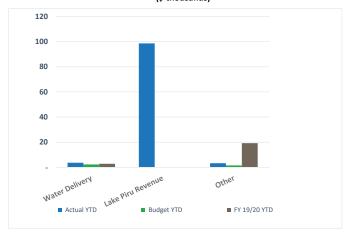
July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

75% of Fiscal Year Completed

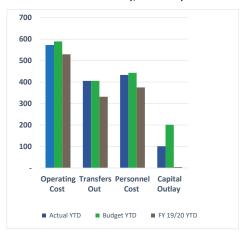
Recreation Sub-Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
Revenues							
Water Delivery	4	2	1	62%	3	1	29%
Earnings on Investments	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Lake Piru Revenue	99	0	99		0	99	
Other	3	1	2	120%	19	(16)	-83%
Total Revenues	106	4	102	2716%	22	84	379%
Expenses							
Personnel Costs	433	443	(10)	-2%	375	58	15%
Operating Expenditures	570	589	(19)	-3%	529	41	8%
Capital Outlay	101	201	(100)	-50%	5	96	2095%
Transfers out	405	405	0	0%	332	74	22%
Total Expenses	1,510	1,639	(129)	-8%	1,240	269	22%
Net Surplus / (Shortfall)	(1,404)	(1,635)	231	-14%	(1,218)	(186)	15%

Revenues (\$ thousands)



Expenses (\$ thousands)



Revenue Status vs. Budget

• Revenue received through 3rd quarter significantly above Plan \$102K since the district has taken over Lake Piru operations from PMC. Revenue primarily coming from Lake Piru Day Use, Camping, and Boating fees and reservations \$99K through Q3. .

Revenue Status vs. Prior Year

Q3 Revenue \$84K (379%) over PY due to increase in fees and reservations slightly offset by decrease in filming revenue because of Lake Piru closure and Covid restrictions.

Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Budget

• Total expenditures \$129K (8%) under budget due to a recent budget transfer of \$100K from General Fund to support a variety of expenses including staffing, general maintenance, purchase of equipment and other expenses associated with managing Lake Piru operation after termination of PMC's concessions agreement. Savings from Maintenance \$38K expected to be used by end of the fiscal year.

Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Prior Year

- Expenditures \$269K (22%) higher than PY.
- Personnel and Operating Costs higher in current year due to the district taking over Lake Piru operations. The district has hired additional part time Rangers and
 maintenance and supplies costs have increased. Capital Outlays are also higher due to the purchase of a Recreation truck, Utility Vehicles, and equipment because
 of the transition.
- Professional fee payments to PMC Concessions were \$65K higher in the current FY due to Covid-related closures at the lake resulting in lower revenue for the
 concessionaire.
- . Offsetting the increases was an \$85K decrease in premium payments on the 2009 bond, due to the recreation sub-fund's portion of the debt being paid of in FY



July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

75% of Fiscal Year Completed

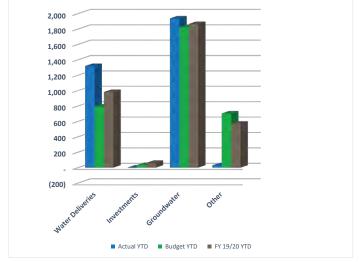
Freeman Diversion Fund (Zone B)

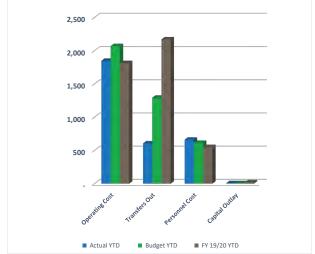
in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
Revenues							
Groundwater	1,937	1,824	113	6%	1,865	73	4%
Water Delivery	1,319	793	526	66%	981	338	34%
Earnings on Investments	(2)	33	(35)	-107%	61	(64)	-104%
Other	32	702	(670)	-95%	570	(538)	-94%
Transfers in	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Total Revenues	3,286	3,352	(66)	-2%	3,477	(191)	-5%
Expenses							
Personnel Costs	660	612	48	8%	550	110	20%
Operating Expenditures	1,848	2,069	(221)	-11%	1,813	35	2%
Capital Outlay	6	6	(0)	0%	18	(12)	-68%
Transfers out	605	1,292	(687)	-53%	2,170	(1,565)	-72%
Total Expenses	3,118	3,979	(861)	-22%	4,551	(1,433)	-31%
Net Surplus / (Shortfall)	168	(627)	795	-127%	(1,074)	1,242	-116%

Revenues

(\$ thousands)







Expenses

Revenue Status vs. Budget

- Total Q3 YTD Revenue \$3.29M, down \$66K from Plan (2%)
- Decrease primarily due to a delay in proceeds from financing (\$687K) due to timing of Emergency Generator, Recycled Water Replenishment and SCADA Hardware capital improvement projects
- Lower earnings on investments (\$35K) were due to a GAAP market value adjustment to LAIF
- Offsetting this decrease were higher volumes of pipeline deliveries which generate in-lieu pumping charge revenue--\$526K over Plan
- Total pipeline deliveries were up 8,104 AF (76%) compared to budgeted 10,705 AF
- Groundwater pumping revenue was also \$113K (6%) higher than Budget due to higher-than-Plan M&I pumping offsetting Ag pumping which was 7% below Plan

Revenue Status vs. Prior Year

- Current year lower by \$191K (5%)
- Decrease from previous fiscal due to a City of Ventura Refund of Judgement (\$543K) received during Fiscal Year 2019-2020
- Offsetting decrease were higher pipeline delivery (\$338K) and groundwater (\$73K) revenue in Fiscal Year 2020-21 on higher volumes at same rates
- Pipeline deliveries were up 5,436 AF (41%) YTD vs prior year
- Earnings on Investments \$64K lower than PY due to GAAP market value adjustment and lower market rates in the current year



July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 75% of Fiscal Year Completed

Freeman Diversion Fund (Zone B) - continued

Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Budget

- Total expenditures \$3.12M, \$861K (22%) 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 (\$221K) than Budget. Decrease in operating expenditures are primarily related to maintenance (\$86K), equipment rentals (\$61K), fuel (\$21K) and permits and licenses (\$12K)
- Delay in operating expenditures partially due to Covid-19, however, may pick up by the end of the fiscal year
- Overhead costs also under budget by \$97K due to timing difference
- Offsetting decrease are ongoing District legal fees (\$108K) for Wishtoyo, City of Ventura and HCP
- Personnel Costs were also \$48K higher than Plan due to an increase in work performed in Environmental Issues, Freeman Diversion and Freeman Fishery projects

Appropriation/Expenditure Status vs. Prior Year

- Total Expenditures are \$1.43M (31%) below PY
- Decrease largely due to a decrease in transfers-out for CIP projects (\$1.57M)
- · Lower transfers-out partially due to a delay in funding and multiple projects being completed last fiscal year
- Offsetting decrease are higher personnel cost of \$110K 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
- The Proposed FY21-22 Budget will contain plans for rebuilding Fund reserves back to the required levels.



July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

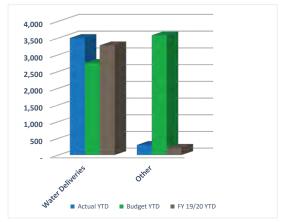
75% of Fiscal Year Completed

Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
Revenues							
Water Delivery	3,496	2,748	748	27%	3,277	219	7%
Earnings on Investments	(4)	15	(19)	-127%	41	(46)	-110%
Grants	6	225	(219)	-97%	0	6	0%
Other	302	3,563	(3,262)	-92%	170	132	77%
Total Revenues	3,799	6,551	(2,752)	-42%	3,488	311	9%
Expenses							
Personnel Costs	688	586	102	17%	684	4	1%
Operating Expenditures	1,625	2,112	(487)	-23%	1,602	23	1%
Capital Outlay	36	58	(23)	-39%	145	(110)	-76%
Transfers out	1,610	5,232	(3,622)	-69%	705	905	128%
Total Expenses	3,959	7,988	(4,029)	-50%	3,137	822	26%
Net Surplus / (Shortfall)	(160)	(1,437)	1,277	-89%	351	(511)	-145%

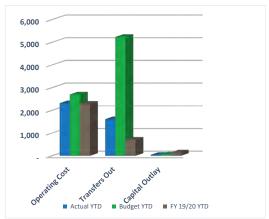
Revenues

(\$ thousands)



Expenses

(\$ thousands)



Revenue

- Water Delivery Revenue \$748K (27%) higher than Budget. 3,745 AF (53%) more delivered than Plan. Deliveries exceed prior year by \$219K (2,340 AF). The decrease in variable rates made the dollar revenue increase less than the actual deliveries.
- Grants under Plan by \$219K. Grant for Fe & Mn treatment; revenue will not be earned until construction begins later in FY21-22.
- Fox Canyon revenues up \$78K (39%) over budget and \$133K (92%) over prior year on water volumes and increase in FCGMA rates.
- Investment revenue \$19K under budget and down \$46K compared to last year due to a \$19K GAAP market value adjustment to LAIF this year and a 78% lower rate of return than last year.
- Total revenue under budget by \$2.8M due to timing of financing transfers.

Expenses

- Maintenance under budget by \$108K and Equipment under by \$59K. These are primarily timing issues and lower corrective action maintenance events.
- Overhead costs \$77K under budget and \$38K below last FY. This is primarily due to the vacant AGM position and lower consulting costs
 culminating in lower overhead expenses.
- Transfers out under budget by \$3.6M due primarily to delayed Fe & Mn treatment project.
- Salaries \$102K and electricity \$102K over budget due to higher OH deliveries and additional time spent on OH pipeline plus higher KWH
 rate charges. Utilities \$170K over last FY.
- 2001/2005 bond premium & interest costs under budget by \$161K due to bond refund and refinancing.
- Capital Outlays while \$23K under budget, are \$110K lower compared to last year. This is primarily due to \$99K for rehab work on OH well #8 in prior year.

Fund Balance

The projected fund balance at the end of FY 20-21 is \$3M.

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.

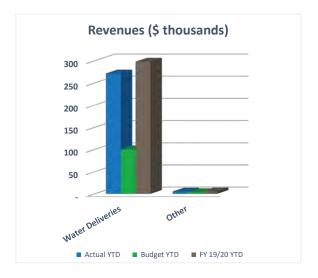


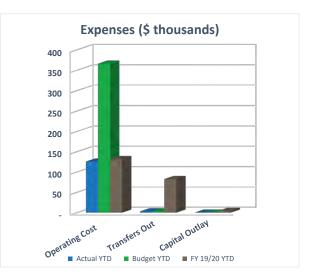
January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021

75% of Fiscal Year Completed

Pleasant Valley Pipeline Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
Revenues							
Water Delivery	271	100	171	170%	298	(27)	-9%
Earnings on Investments	(0)	3	(3)	-102%	9	(9)	-101%
Other	5	4	2	47%	6	(0)	-9%
Total Revenues	276	107	169	158%	313	(36)	-12%
Expenses							
Personnel Costs	61	34	27	78%	38	22	58%
Operating Expenditures	65	332	(267)	-80%	93	(28)	-30%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0%	5	(5)	-100%
Transfers out	3	3	0	0%	83	(80)	-96%
Total Expenses	129	369	(240)	-65%	219	(90)	-41%
Net Surplus / (Shortfall)	147	(262)	410	-156%	93	54	58%





Revenue

Water delivery was \$271K (3,106 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 revenue less than prior year by \$27K due to lower fixed rate. Staff anticipates water delivery revenue to continue to be above Budget in fourth quarter.

Expenses

- Operating expenditures under Budget by \$267K this fiscal year and down \$28K from prior year. Decrease is primarily due to \$225K budgeted for PV reservoir maintenance which is expected to be used later in current fiscal year.
- Transfers out lower than last fiscal year are higher by \$80K due to new headquarters.
- Personnel costs up \$27K over Plan and up \$22K from prior year due to several factors including two new O&M Recharge Worker hires, one O&M Intern hire and an internal employee promotion, with higher allocations of staff time to PV work.

Fund Balance

- The projected fund balance at the end of FY 20-21 is \$217K.
- The District's reserve policy requires an undesignated balance of \$262K for this fund, which is not projected to be met, due to additional maintenance work performed in FY 20-21. The Proposed FY 21-22 Budget will contain plans for rebuilding the Fund reserves back to the required levels.



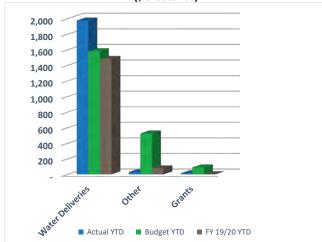
July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

75% of Fiscal Year Completed

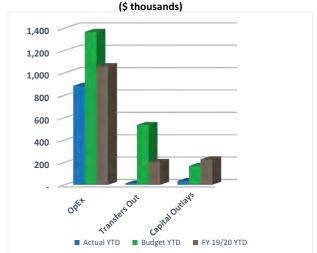
Pumping Trough Pipeline Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
Revenues							
Water Delivery	1,974	1,579	394	25%	1,480	493	33%
Earnings on Investments	2	8	(6)	-79%	18	(16)	-91%
Grants	13	88	(75)	-85%	0	13	0%
Other	27	516	(489)	-95%	57	(30)	-52%
Total Revenues	2,016	2,191	(176)	-8%	1,556	460	30%
Expenses							
Personnel Costs	282	278	5	2%	293	(11)	-4%
Operating Expenditures	601	1,089	(487)	-45%	766	(165)	-21%
Capital Outlay	34	169	(135)	-80%	227	(193)	-85%
Transfers out	11	534	(522)	-98%	204	(192)	-94%
Total Expenses	929	2,069	(1,140)	-55%	1,490	(561)	-38%
Net Surplus / (Shortfall)	1,087	123	964	786%	66	1,021	1543%





Expenses



Revenue

- Revenue received through Q3 \$2.02M, down \$176K (8%) 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 \$56K 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 third quarter
- Compensating for revenue decrease are higher than expected pipeline deliveries (25%). 3,570 AF pipeline deliveries were expected to be delivered through the third quarter of FY 2020-21, but 4,811 AF were made. This resulted in \$394K additional revenue.



July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 75% of Fiscal Year Completed

Pumping Trough Pipeline Fund (Continued)

Revenue Status vs. Prior Year

- Current fiscal year revenues up \$460K (30%) compared to last fiscal year
- Primarily due to an increase of 904 AF pipeline deliveries (\$493K) 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 (\$30K) and earnings on investments (\$16K) due to lower market rates in the current year

Expenses

- Total expenditures \$929K, \$1.14M (55%) below Plan
- Primarily due to lower than planned transfers-out (\$522K) to capital improvement projects
- Operating expenditures (\$487K) and capital outlay (\$135K) were also under Budget
- Maintenance \$133K below Plan this year due to delays caused by Covid-19, as well as less than projected maintenance on corroding PTP turnouts. However, activity expected to pick up by the end of the fiscal year
- Electricity \$138K under Budget due to considerable surface water deliveries (4,148 AF) through the third quarter, which resulted in less time running PTP wells
- General and administrative expense were also \$58K lower than Budget due to timing difference
- Fox Canyon expenses down \$45K, which also due to more surface water deliveries
- Slightly offsetting decrease are higher than expected personnel cost (\$5K). Personnel increase due to a rise in remote training for Covid-19 and an unanticipated payroll in December 2020.

Expense Status vs. Prior Year

- Compared to last fiscal year, expenditures are lower by \$561K (38%)
- Primarily due to capital outlay being \$193K 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 (\$192K) 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
- Operating expenditures (\$165K) lower in current fiscal year due to a decrease in utility and maintenance expenses, which is slightly correlated to Covid-19

Fund Balance

• The projected ending balance is \$692K. 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.



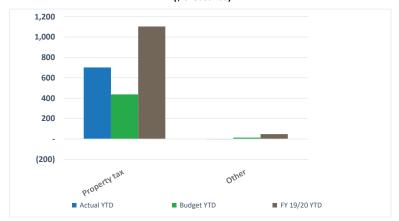
July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

75% of Fiscal Year Completed

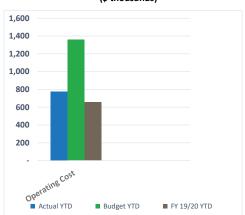
State Water Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
Revenues							
Water Delivery	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Earnings on Investments	(2)	14	(16)	-116%	44	(46)	-105%
Other	702	437	265	61%	1,108	(406)	-37%
Total Revenues	700	451	249	55%	1,152	(452)	-39%
Expenses							
Personnel Costs	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Operating Expenditures	776	1,356	(580)	-43%	655	121	18%
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%
Total Expenses	776	1,356	(580)	-43%	655	121	18%
Net Surplus / (Shortfall)	(76)	(905)	829	-92%	497	(573)	-115%

Revenues (\$ thousands)



Expenses (\$ thousands)



Revenue

- Total revenues \$249K (55%) higher than budgeted.
- Property tax revenues \$265K (61%) over budget primarily due to passthrough and residual taxes not being budgeted for. Revenue requested of State Water \$435K (43%) lower than previous year due to build up fund balance from previous years' unavailable Table A allocation.
- Investment earnings through Q3 was on budget except for a GAAP market value adjustment to LAIF of \$15K. Including the GAAP adjustment, there was a \$46K (105%) decrease in earnings income compared to last year predominantly due to a 78% lower rate of return on assets held with LAIF.

Expenditures

- Total expenditures \$580K (43%) lower than budgeted, due to 25% Table A allocation. Additionally, variable charges by DWR fluctuate from one year to the next and can be unpredictable
- Compared to last year, expenditures higher by \$121K (19%). 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 \$2.7M.

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). The Proposed FY21-22 Budget takes this into account with a reduced projection in revenues from the county.



July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

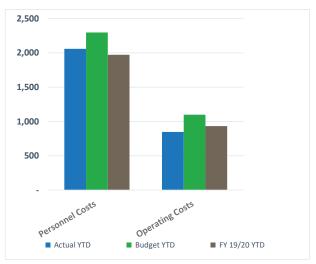
75% of Fiscal Year Completed

Overhead Fund

in \$ thousands	CY Actuals	CY Revised Budget	Variance	% Variance	PY Actuals	Variance	% Variance
Expenses							
Personnel Costs	2,060	2,298	(238)	-10%	1,973	87	4%
Operating Expenditures	848	1,099	(251)	-23%	932	(84)	-9%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0%	45	(45)	0%
Total Expenses	2,907	3,397	(489)	-14%	2,949	(41)	-1%

Expenses

(\$ thousands)



Expenses

- Expenditures under budget by \$489K (14%).
- The largest savings were in Personnel due to the vacant Assistant General Manager position and lower benefits expenses, and Consulting services for Admin/Finance (\$187K). Costs for Admin consulting under-utilized and financial advisory services also under-utilized, as some of these costs were included in debt issuance.
- Compared to prior year, expenditures are lower by \$41K (1.4%). Although Assistant General Manager position has been vacant, Personnel
 costs still up by \$87K 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 offset by decrease in Professional fees \$37K, Maintenance costs \$35K, and Travel
 and Training \$22K due to Covid-19 restrictions.

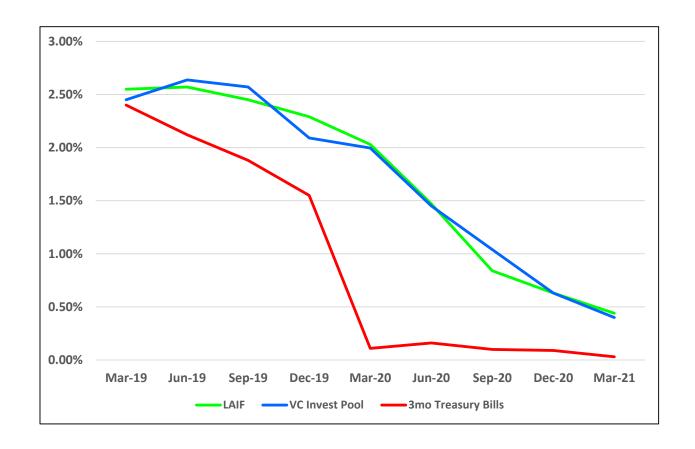
United Water Conservation District

CURRENTLY APPROPRIATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PLAN

FY 20-2021 Available Appropriations as of March 31, 2021

					1120	2021 1	rvanabie rip	propriations as	or waren	71, 2021					
							Total	Aı	propriations	1	Expend	led and Encun	nbered	% of Total	
			1st	1st	Expected		Est Project	Total Approp	Suppl	Total				Est Project	Remaining
	Fund	Proj	Budget	Activity	End		Cost	Approved thru	Approp	Approp	Total as	Current	Total	costs spent	Appropriations
Project Description	#	#	Year	Date	Year	Class	(000s)	FY 2019-20	FY 20-21	to Date	FY 2019-20	FY 20-21	to date	to date	FY 20-21
Well Replacement Program Well #18	452	8000	2015-16	08/06/15	2021	I	1,590	875,705	714,429	1,590,134	632,134	486,529	1,118,663	70.36%	471,471
Freeman Diversion Rehab	421	8001	2009-10	03/23/11	2024	II&IV	73,966	8,376,614	589,294	8,965,908	4,231,103	2,231,111	6,462,214	8.74%	2,503,694
SFD Outlet Works Rehab		8002	2007-08	04/20/11	2025+	I&II	53,390	3,743,353	1,297,194	5,040,547	2,669,751	1,876,920	4,546,671	8.52%	493,876
SFD PMF Containment		8003	2008-09	06/22/09	2025+	II	42,520	3,861,136	1,052,369	4,913,505	2,606,665	1,917,889	4,524,553	10.64%	388,952
SFD Sediment Management		8005	2013-14	05/28/14	2022	II	175	94,954	-	94,954	60,341	2,193	62,534	35.73%	32,420
Lower River Invasive Species Control	471	8006	2015-16	08/06/15	2023	IV	640	865,517	(285,217)	580,300	179,414	5,160	184,575	28.84%	395,725
OHP Iron and Manganese Treatment	451	8007	2015-16	08/06/15	2022	III	9,655	1,140,777	4,039,157	5,179,934	1,015,364	146,006	1,161,370	12.03%	4,018,564
Ferro-Rose Recharge		8018	2006-07	03/23/07	2023	Ш	31,849	1,896,577	12,752	1,909,329	1,155,924	158,886	1,314,810	4.13%	594,519
Brackish Water Treatment		8019	2015-16	07/08/15	2025+	III	154,667	60,180	339,576	399,756	58,315	58,042	116,358	0.08%	283,398
Rice Ave Overpass PTP	471	8021	2016-17	08/17/18	2021	II	83	73,497	9,823	83,320	25,350	32,320	57,669	69.48%	25,651
PTP Turnout Metering System	471	8022	2016-17	03/10/17	2022	I	1,755	1,017,500	442,340	1,459,840	791,703	232,046	1,023,750	58.33%	436,090
Pothole Trailhead		8023	2016-17	02/14/17	2021	I	503	312,011	190,828	502,839	199,834	198,221	398,055	79.14%	104,784
State Water Interconnection Project		8025	2016-17	06/15/17	2022	II	559	303,121	5,616	308,737	187,920	27,646	215,567	38.56%	93,170
El Rio Trailer		8028	2019-20		2022	II	390	35,000	75,000	110,000	-	-	-	0.00%	110,000
Alternative Supply Alliance Pipeline		8030	2018-19	06/08/18	2021	II	362	361,578	-	361,578	35,261	2,896	38,156	10.54%	323,422
Grand Canal Modifications		8032	2018-19	06/30/19	2021	II	810	525,916	20,149	546,065	115,821	419,250	535,071	66.06%	10,994
Floc Building Emergency Generator	421	8033	2019-20		2021	II	78	75,000	3,416	78,416		-	-	0.00%	78,416
Lak Piru Campground Electrical Update		8034	2019-20		2023	I	673	65,800	7,624	73,424		-	-	0.00%	73,424
OH Booster Pump Overhaul	451	8035	2019-20	05/27/20	2020	I	280	280,000	-	280,000	66,703	172,880	239,583	85.57%	40,417
OH System Emergency Generator	451	8036	2020-21	12/18/20	2021	II	909	0	908,775	908,775		292,741	292,741	32.20%	616,034
Piru WTP Emergency Generator		8037	2020-21		2021	II	102	0	101,527	101,527		-	-	0.00%	101,527
PTP System Emergency Generator	471	8038	2019-20	08/01/19	2020	II	903	902,800	-	902,800	772,194	112,505	884,699	97.97%	18,101
Santa Paula Tower Emergency Generato	r	8039	2019-20		2021	II	66	60,800	4,727	65,527		-	-	0.00%	65,527
Asset Management / CMMS System		8041	2019-20	04/10/20	2022	-	263	30,000	82,780	112,780	463	4,645	5,107	1.94%	107,673
Recycled Water GW Replenishment/Reu	421	8042	2020-21	12/04/20	2024	III	8,714	0	519,380	519,380		1,617	1,617	0.02%	517,763
Lake Piru e-Kiosk		8045	2020-21		2021	II	106	0	105,500	105,500		-	-	0.00%	105,500
SCADA Hardware Update		8046	2020-21	11/20/20	2021	II	1,003	0	660,260	660,260		55,092	55,092	5.49%	605,168
TOTAL AMOUNT PER YEAR							386,011	24,957,836	10,897,299	35,855,135	14,804,260	8,434,594	23,238,854	6.02%	12,616,282
Class I = Infrastructure Repair or Replacementals II = Structural/Hydraulic Improvementals															
Class III = Water Resource Improvement	(ne yield)														
Class IV = ESA Improvement		_							-			-			

Current Benchmark Yields						
LAIF	March 31, 2021	0.44%				
VC Invest Pool	January 31, 2021	0.40%				
3mo Treasury Bills	March 31, 2021	0.03%				





To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

From: Dan Detmer, Supervising Hydrogeologist

Date: April 29, 2021 (May 12, 2021 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.1 PUBLIC HEARING Continuation of Annual Groundwater Hearing

to Accept Public Comment on Groundwater Conditions within the

District

Staff Recommendation:

Continue Annual Groundwater Hearing.

Discussion:

In accordance with the California Water Code, the Board annually conducts a public hearing to consider the conditions of groundwater resources within the District. An Annual Engineering Investigation and Report of Groundwater Conditions within the United Water Conservation District was submitted to the Board's Secretary/Treasurer on March 30, 2021, and has been available for public review and comment. The hearing was opened at the Board's April 14, 2021 meeting and will be continued through each regular Board meeting through June. During its June meeting, the Board may choose to close the hearing and consider the establishment of zones and the levying of groundwater extraction charges in those zones.

Staff will present a summary of the groundwater conditions detailed in the 2021 Annual Report. The Water Code Section 75574 uses specific definitions for terms such as "overdraft" and "total of annual overdrafts"; these terms will be explained in the context of their use in the Annual Report.

	2019-2020 (previous year)	Water Year 2020-2021 (current year)	2021-2022 (ensuing year)
Annual Overdraft	38,600 AF	112,000 AF (projected)	0 - 78,900 AF
Accumulated Overdraft	20,000 – 25,000 AF	20,000 – 25,000 AF	-
Total of Annual Overdrafts	2,078,000 AF	-	-
Estimated Groundwater Pumping for Agriculture	-	-	118,000 AF
Estimated Groundwater Pumping for M&I	-	-	39,000 AF

4.1 <u>PUBLIC HEARING</u> Continuation of Annual Groundwater Hearing to Accept Public Comment on Groundwater Conditions within the District

	2019-2020 (previous year)	Water Year 2020-2021 (current year)	2021-2022 (ensuing year)
Estimated Surface Water Distribution	-	-	Much less than 64,000 AF
Total Water Distribution	-	-	Much less than 221,000 AF

The Forebay groundwater basin is an important element of the water resources management program implemented by the District. Staff calculates the available storage in the Forebay on a monthly basis. The available storage, as of March 2021, is approximately 102,700 AF. For reference, an available storage value of about 80,000 AF means that water levels in the Forebay basin are at about sea level and these lower water levels cannot provide the positive pressures on the seawater intruded aquifers at the coast to retard landward migration of saline waters.

Public comment will be accepted at this time. This hearing will be continued first until Wednsday, June 9, 2021. No Board decisions will be made until the final hearing on Wednesday, June 9, 2021.

Attachment A: Annual Engineering Investigation and Report of Groundwater Conditions within the United Water Conservation District



To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

Anthony A. Emmert, Assistant General Manager

From: Joseph Jereb, Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 29, 2021 (May 12, 2021 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.2 FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget Workshop

Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will consider information presented by staff concerning the <u>Proposed FY 2021-2022</u> <u>District Budget</u>. Pertinent information with respect to the budget will be discussed. The Board may provide guidance and direction on various budget issues and recommendations. However, the Board will not consider adoption of the District budget until its June 9, 2021 Regular Board Meeting. The overview will consist of:

- Introduction and review related to the development of the proposed budget, reserve needs, corresponding rates to be charged, the budget process and related issues.
- Review of Capital Improvement Plan and recommended funding for FY 2021-22.
- Additional information in connection with and in support of the proposed FY 2021-22 Budget and the District's groundwater extraction charges.
- Questions from the Board
- Public Comments/Questions



To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

From: Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer

Zachary Hanson, Hydrogeologist

Date: April 27, 2021 (May 12, 2021 Board Meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.3 PUBLIC HEARING

For the Purpose of Receiving Public Comment and Discussion of the Proposed 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the Water Shortage Contingency Plan for the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline

Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving public comment and discussion of the proposed 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the Water Shortage Contingency Plan for the Oxnard Hueneme (OH) Pipeline System.

Discussion:

The Urban Water Management Planning Act requires all urban water suppliers that provide water, directly or indirectly, to 3,000 or more customers (or more than 3,000 acre-feet annually) to develop, adopt, and implement an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) every five years. The District as a wholesale supplier of water to the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline (OH) System falls under this requirement. The General Manager awarded a contract to Stantec to prepare the District's UWMP update on November 9, 2020. The UWMP update must be adopted by the Board of Directors and submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by July 1, 2021. The UWMP encompasses the OH service area and includes the following customers:

- City of Oxnard (Oxnard)
- Port Hueneme Water Agency (PHWA), consisting of City of Port Hueneme, Naval Base Ventura County and Channel Islands Beach Community Services District
- Dempsey Road Mutual Water Company
- Cypress Mutual Water Company
- Saviers Road Mutual Water Company
- Vineyard Avenue Estates Mutual Water Company
- Rio Del Valle and Rio Real Schools
- E & H Land Company

Agenda Item 4.3 PUBLIC HEARING

For the Purpose of Receiving Public Comment and Discussion of the Proposed 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the Water Shortage Contingency Plan for the Oxnard Hueneme Pipeline Motion

Since 2015, several amendments have been made to the Urban Water Management Planning Act resulting in significant changes in the Act including Drought Risk Assessment and the Five Consecutive Dry-Year Water Reliability Assessment, Water Shortage Contingency Plan which draws on lessons learned from the 2012-2016 drought, California's driest period on record, Seismic Risk Analysis to the water system facilities and associated mitigation plans should seismic events occur, Consistency with Groundwater Sustainability Plans and Lay Description which includes a brief conclusion regarding water service reliability, challenges ahead and reliability risks management strategies.

The Draft UWMP Update was distributed to the OH customers and stakeholders on March 12, 2021. The draft was also posted on the District's website. Notice of availability of the draft update was published in the Ventura County Star on March 12, 2021 and March 19, 2021. Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Ventura County Star on March 12, 2021, March 19, 2021 and again on April 28, 2021. One minor comment related to the presentation of draft figures in the Draft UWMP has been received from the OH customers or stakeholders at the time this report was prepared. The public is invited to provide any questions or comments on the plan or its development, either in writing by 5 P.M. on May 11, 2021, or orally to staff through the Public Hearing.

Fiscal Impact:

Adoption of the Urban Water Management Plan Update is mandated by the California Water Code. Failure to adopt the update could render the District ineligible for future grants and financial assistance. In accordance with Section 10656 of the California Water Code, an urban water supplier that does not prepare, adopt, and submit its urban water management plan to the California DWR is ineligible to receive funding pursuant to Division 24 (commencing with Section 78500) or Division 26 (commencing with Section 79000), or receive drought assistance from the state until the urban water management plan is submitted pursuant to this article.



To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

From: Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer

Date: April 27, 2021 (May 12, 2021 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 4.4 Resolution 2021-09 Approving CEQA Notice of Categorical

Exemption Determination for the Emergency Power Supply for UWCD

Drinking Water Treatment and Supply Facilities Project

Motion

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will consider adopting <u>Resolution 2021-09</u>, approving the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of categorical exemption determination for the Emergency Power Supply for UWCD Drinking Water Treatment and Supply Facilities Project at the three (3) project locations and allowing staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Ventura County Clerk and Recorder's Office.

Discussion:

The District is the lead agency for the Emergency Power Supply for UWCD Drinking Water Treatment and Supply Facilities Project under CEQA. The proposed project consists of the installation of emergency backup generators at three (3) critical water treatment and supply facilities including the Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant (LPWTP), Flocculation Building (FLOC), and the Santa Paula Tower (SP Tower). The project will help United continue to provide reliable potable water supplies and maintain safe operation of the reservoir and water treatment plant during power outages. The project is categorically exempt pursuant the CCR Section 15301 "Existing Facilities" Class 1.

Fiscal Impact:

The County Clerk and Recorder's Office filing fee for the CEQA NOE is \$50.00 which is included in the Adopted Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.

Attachment A – Notice of Exemption Attachment B – Resolution 2021-09

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 113 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044	From: (Public Agency):
County Clerk	
County of:	(Address)
Project Title:	
Project Location - Specific:	
Project Location - City:	Project Location - County:
Description of Nature, Purpose and Benefic	
	•
	n(4); 15269(b)(c)); and section number:number:
Reasons why project is exempt:	
Lead Agency Contact Person:	Area Code/Telephone/Extension:
If filed by applicant: 1. Attach certified document of exempt 2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed	ion finding. d by the public agency approving the project? Yes No
Signature:	Date: Title:
Signed by Lead Agency Sig	gned by Applicant
Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Re Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Pu	

RESOLUTION 2021-09

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT APPROVING THE EMERGENCY POWER SUPPLY FOR UWCD DRINKING WATER TREATMENT AND SUPPLY FACILITIES PROJECT

WHEREAS, for the purpose of continued supply of potable water to facilities during power outage events, the United Water Conservation District ("District") proposes the installation and operation of three new standby generators at three facility locations: The Lake Piru Water Treatment Plan, the Flocculation Building, and the Santa Paula Tower; and

WHEREAS, the Project will be installed on three existing District facilities; and

WHEREAS, the beneficiaries of the Project include water users within the District.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District does hereby **RESOLVE**, **DETERMINE**, and **ORDER** as follows:

1. CEQA Compliance

The Board of Directors hereby finds that approval of the Project is not subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) ("CEQA") and the State CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.), on grounds that the Project is categorically exempt. Specifically, the Board of Directors finds that the Project is categorically exempt pursuant the Class 1, Existing Facilities exemption (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15301

Approval of the Project

The Board of Directors hereby approves the Emergency Power Supply for UWCD Drinking Water Treatment and Supply Facilities Project and its implementation.

2. Notice of Exemption

The Board of Directors hereby directs Staff to file a Notice of Exemption ("NOE") for the Project within five (5) working days of the approval of the Project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 12th DAY OF MAY 2021

Michael W. Mobley, President	Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer



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: April 21, 2021 (May 12, 2021 meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.1 Monthly Administrative Services Department Report

Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Administrative Service Department regarding its activities for the month of April.

Discussion:

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

Finance

- Compiled department requests to form preliminary budget and calculate proposed rates for FY 21-22.
- Provided Proposed Budget Projections to rate analysists and received their preliminary results.
- Met with Department Managers to review their March YTD spend and created an updated projection and analysis of total FY 20-21 spend.
- Continued to work with Lake Piru staff to improve the revenue collection and reporting process at the Recreation Area.
- Filed annual State Controller's Compensation Report.
- Two Finance staff attended a CSDA webinar on Financial Management for Special Districts.

Administration

• Secured UWCD sponsorship of ACWA Virtual Spring Conference "Behind the Scenes at the Monterey Aquarium" event and oversaw development of the UWCD video that opens the event (May 12 at 4pm);

5.1

- Provided administrative/clerk duties for Recreation Committee meeting (April 7), Water Resources Committee meeting (April 12), Finance Committee meeting (April 13); and Executive Committee meeting (April 26);
- Provided administrative/clerk duties for Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA Board meeting on April 15;
- Provided administrative/clerk duties for Mound Basin GSA Board meeting on April 15;
- Continued to provide administrative/clerk duties for Ventura County Special District Association.

Human Resources

- Processed onboarding paperwork for several new seasonal Park Rangers and several Camp Host volunteers.
- Assisted staff with several inquiries regarding District benefits.
- Coordinated regarding all staff e-mail regarding COVID-19 Special SL leave adopted by the State Legislature.
- Processed promotion paperwork for several Field Technicians.
- Processed several staff 457b contribution changes during the month.
- Coordinated several mandated Department of Transportation specialized tests required to maintain Class A licenses in April.
- Coordinated with SDRMA to add new equipment purchased by the District to ensure sustained coverage of the equipment.

Safety and Risk Management

- Provided COVID-19 update and annual respiratory protection training to staff during monthly safety meeting.
- Disseminated COVID-19 updates to staff.
- Disseminated guidance for return to work to Oxnard HQ staff members.
- Coordinated and participated in FERC Security Branch Spring Webinar for Engineering, O&M, and Admin Services Departments.
- Evaluated and processed California SB 338 policy updates to Ranger's policy manual.
- Enrolled and tested Emergency Notification System with new staff, including the system's new mobile application.
- Finalized CPR/First Aid/AED Instructor Portal Configuration and Acquisition of Training Supplies; initiated/assigned blended CPR/First Aid/AED blended learning course.
- Assisted with the ongoing procurement effort of District's best-in-class iPad initiative/program.
- Followed up with SDRMA to update Credit Incentive Program (CIP) to ensure credits were maximized/applied correctly from recent trainings by Board and Staff members.
 - Final CIP figure: \$47,169

Information Technology

Provided IT Support for the following virtual meetings:

- UWCD Recreation Committee Meeting (April 7th)
- UWCD Water Resources Committee Meeting (April 12th)
- UWCD Finance and Audit Committee (April 13th)
- UWCD Board of Directors Monthly Meeting (April 14th)
- FPB GSA Board Meeting (April 15th)
- Engineering Dam Safety Technical Meeting

General IT Helpdesk/Cyber Support:

- Supported a Cyber Security Advisory originating from security alert from behavior analytics AI software. During manual analysis from staff and the security engineers from product support it was determined to be a false positive and corrective changes were implemented.
- Setup IT Accounts, e-mails, and provided proper IT equipment as necessary to Recreation staff that joined the District in the month of April to prepare for upcoming Lake Piru Recreation Area busy season.
- Provided IT Support of the Lake Piru Recreational Area Public accessible Wi-Fi. As of April 30, six of the planned potential wireless access points have been deployed in the campground. These areas include: Restroom areas, Gatehouse, and the Rangers Station. Supplementary access points are planned for the storefront area and the perimeter once a range assessment of the Wi-Fi has been completed.
- Upgraded Water Resources Supervisor with refreshed Laptop and Docking station equipment.
- Facilitated various network activities at Lake Piru. One example was the consolidation of Lake Piru sub-networks in anticipation adding upgraded point to point radio and the updated Firewall appliances.
- Improved the download and uplink bandwidth capabilities at the SFD Maintenance Shop from 10 to 150+ Mbps.
 - Increased the limitation on the SFD Wi-Fi access point. Teams and other virtual meetings now permitted inside the shop office spaces.

IT Meetings and Events:

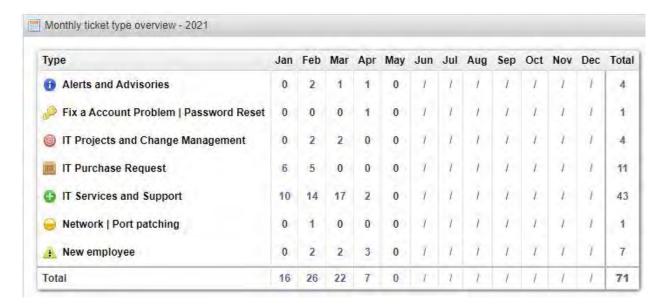
- FERC D2SI Security Branch Spring Webinar
- MS-ISAC (Multi-State Information Sharing & Analysis Center) monthly membership call
- UWCD account review with third party vendors regarding Datacenter hardware solutions for potential 2021-22 technology enhancements requested in the proposed budget
- Bi-weekly with the Security Operations Team to plan and coordinate development of a UWCD Emergency Operations Center.

5.1

<u>Technology Systems Customer Service Metrics:</u>

• During the month of April 2021, seven (7) new service request tickets were added to the ticketing system.







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: May 3, 2021 (May 12, 2021 meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report

Information item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Engineering Department regarding activities for the month of April 2021 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 products during the Covid-19 pandemic.

1. Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Projects

- Spillway Improvement Project
 - o Staff began review of the draft Geotechnical Data Report (GDR) that summarizes the results of the 2020 subsurface exploration program.
 - O Staff continued to review the draft Technical Memorandums (TMs) received from GEI Consultants. Staff reviewed the Freeboard Robustness Study (Hydraulic Analysis Part 2), Cavitation and Stagnation Pressure Analyses (Hydraulic Analysis Part 3), and the Seismic Analysis of the Spillway Retaining Walls.
 - Staff prepared and submitted the 1968 historical report of the spillway crack inspection and the 1970 topography of the spillway and discharge channel to GEI to support the design efforts.
 - o In preparation for the upcoming Board of Consultants (BOC) meeting No. 5, Staff reviewed the current Agreements for all BOC members and verified the remaining balance with Finance Department.

 Staff prepared PowerPoint presentation for Dr. Larry Weber. The presentation summarizes the history of the Santa Felicia Dam and the current progress of the SFD Safety Improvement Project.

• Outlet Works Improvement Project

- On April 6, Engineering and Environmental staff discussed with GEI Consultants the alternatives included in the proposed outlet works design to increase of the dissolved oxygen level and the Quagga Mussel colonization mitigation.
- On April 19, Engineering and Operations staff met and discussed GEI Consultants' responses to staff recommendations on the 30% design of the outlet works improvement.
- Staff received and reviewed the pre-meeting handout package for the second workshop with GEI Consultants. The workshop is scheduled to be held on May 13 with the attendance of Operations, Engineering, and GEI.

• FERC License Amendment Application and NEPA Documentation

- On April 22, United staff, Catalyst, and Rincon attended the technical assistance virtual meeting with FERC and NMFS to discuss the conceptual design of the new channel connecting the discharge of the new outlet works to the Lower Piru Creek.
- Once the channel design is advanced further, it will be included in the revised draft Biological Assessment report (BA) and submitted to FERC.

Santa Felicia Dam Safety

- On April 23, Staff received a follow-up letter from FERC regarding the Santa Felicia Dam cybersecurity and physical security inspections conducted on May 21 and June 9, 2020. Staff will attend a meeting with Operations and SFD security team to discuss FERC's comments and recommendations on May 6.
- Staff issued a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) to Encompass Consultant Group (ECG) in April to perform the biennial SFD Monitoring Survey. The monitoring survey is scheduled to be conducted in May 2021.

2. Santa Felicia Dam Sediment Management Project

- Staff received a sediment sampling plan from GEI on March 26, 2021. Engineering Staff are currently working with Environmental Services Staff to obtain California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CFDW) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permits for this sampling work.
- On April 27-28, 2021, Fugro performed a trial multi-beam scan of the SFD Intake Tower (See Figure 6). This work was performed at no cost to the District. Fugro performed this work to provide their staff training and to develop a method for scanning the Santa Felicia

5.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

Dam Intake Tower during future bathymetric surveys of the Lake Piru Reservoir. If this method is successful, Fugro will be able to more accurately detect the sediment elevation surrounding the SFD Intake Tower.

3. Pothole Trailhead Parking Area

• The District is currently working on developing two (2) easements to the Forest Service in perpetuity for the public use for two areas, including the trailhead parking area and the stretches of the Pothole Trail that lie on District Property. The District has retained ECG to provide the legal description of the two areas for their respective easements. ECG, in coordination with staff, performed a field survey of the Pothole Trail on April 28, 2021. Once the legal descriptions are ready, the legal counsel will draft these two documents. Staff continued to work with the Forest Service to finalize the content for an interpretative sign structure. The sign structure will be installed in June 2021.

4. <u>Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant Slope Evaluation</u>

- The District retained ECG to perform a topo survey of the Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant facility. The topo survey was conducted on April 27, 2021 (See Figure 7).
- On April 15, 2021 Staff met HDR Engineering, Inc (HDR) at the Lake Piru WTP to discuss design services for the Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant Slope Stabilization. HDR provided the District a proposal on April 27, 2021. Staff is in the process of reviewing the proposal and refining the scope of work.

5. Freeman Diversion Rehabilitation/Fish Passage Facility

- USBR has created space in its laboratory for one of the 1:24 scale physical models.
- NHC continues to develop an alternative for the Hardened Ramp that is more yield neutral.

6. Grand Canal

• DOD Construction started construction of the Grand Canal hydraulic improvements and hopes to have the project complete by the end of June.

7. <u>Iron and Manganese Removal at the El Rio Water Treatment Plant</u>

- April 14, 2021 Staff conducted site reconnaissance with Phoenix Civil Engineering to gather information in the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) under the Construction General Permit.
- April 14, 2021 Staff confirmed with County of Ventura Public Works staff that the project is exempt from grading permit requirements.
- April 15, 2021 Environmental services staff conducted a pre-construction survey of the project site as part of CEQA document-described "avoidance and minimization measures."

- April 21, 2021 Staff prepared and submitted the semi-annual progress report for the WaterSmart grant (United States Bureau of Reclamation).
- April 23, 2021 Staff received four (4) Statements of Qualifications/Proposals in response to the Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFQ/P) for Construction Management (CM) and Inspection Services.
- May 5, 2021 Staff held a workshop to select consultants for interviews in response to the RFQ/P for CM and Inspection Services.
- Staff has been responding to Kristine McCaffrey (Calleguas Municipal Water District or CMWD) who is coordinating efforts with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on behalf of the project proponents to finalize and execute the Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant. DWR has been inquiring about construction permits and their related schedules. It is anticipated that DWR is close to executing an grant agreement with CMWD.
- Staff set-up a new BidNet account that provides web-based solicitation services for construction bidding and has a California Purchasing Group. Staff has prepared the plans, specifications and estimate for construction bidding. Staff prepared an extensive list of prospective contractors that have bid on similar projects in the area.
- The tentative schedule for the project is as follows:
 - O May 2021 Advertise for construction bids
 - O June 2021 Open construction bids
 - O July 2021 Award construction contract (pending Prop 1 grant agreement execution)
 - O Aug 2021 Notice to Proceed for construction

8. El Rio Well Replacement

• Best Drilling and Pump Inc. (BDP) completed construction El Rio Water Well No. 19 and is the process of hydraulically developing the well. BDP will perform the well destruction of Well No. 6 after the hydraulic development of Well No. 19.

9. OH Backup Generator at the El Rio Booster Plant

- CalOES Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Administration
 - o Staff submitted the second quarterly report to CalOES on April 15. The report included the project activities for the period January 1 to March 31, 2021.
 - o The second reimbursement request in the amount of \$72,888.65 was submitted to CalOES on April 24.
- Procurement of a New 800 kW Generator
 - o The new generator is expected to be available in early August.
- Generator Installation Construction

5.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

- Phoenix Civil Engineering was retained to provide construction management services for the project to ensure timely completion of the project. Lucci & Associates provides engineering services during construction.
- o Staff issued a notice to proceed to Oilfield Electric and Motor (Oilfield) on April 2 and held a preconstruction meeting with Oilfield and the project team on the same day. Weekly construction meetings began on April 6.
- o As of April 29, Oilfield submitted 18 of 22 submittals for the long lead items. The submittals were reviewed and commented on by the project team.
- o The existing generator was removed on April 21 (see Figure 1 below).
- Oilfield is planning to mobilize to the job site and start construction on May 24. Staff
 coordinated the power shutdown during construction with SCE and the project team.
 Additionally, Staff submitted an Outage Request Form and a Request for actual Short
 Circuit Duty or data for an Arc Flash Study to SCE.

10. PTP Turnout Metering System Improvement

- Total number of meters installed: 28 of 61 installed or 46% complete.
- An additional seven (7) meter installations are planned before the end of Fiscal Year 20-21.
- Easement acquisition completion: 14 of 41 obtained, 34.1% (+4.9% change from our last reporting)
- Three (3) owner-signed easement requires recording with the County Recorder's office.
- Staff negotiated with right-of-way acquisition consultant Hamner, Jewell & Associates and subconsultant Stantec on the scope of work and fee for finalizing easement documents at seven (7) turnout locations that were partially prepared by Jensen Design & Survey.
- April 26, 2021 Staff attended site tour with owner representatives for PTP Turnout Nos. #113, 114 & 126W and reviewed the installation plan. Owner representatives agreed to minor changes in the easement locations.

11. Recycled Water Update

• No significant updates to report.

12. State Water Project (SWP) Interconnection Pipeline Project

- Staff has included a motion item in the Board agenda (Please refer to Motion Item No. 4.3) requesting the Board to approve the draft agreement between United and other three agencies, including the City of Buenaventura (Ventura), Calleguas Municipal Water District and Casitas Water District.
- United will most likely enter into a couple of wheeling agreements in the future in order to receive State Water Project through the interconnection pipeline when water is available

5.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

- and can be delivered. Water deliveries are meant to help meet the demand during short term outages and not to meet the demand during long-term outages or drought periods.
- Staff attended the March 5th project progress meeting with the City of Ventura, Casitas, Stantec and HDR Engineers. Stantec discussed the project progress, including the completion of the topographic survey north of Santa Clara River and continued corrosion analysis and testing in the northern segment of the proposed alignment), upcoming geotechnical borings in Santa Clara River and a proposed alignment included in a draft technical memorandum (TM). Staff review the draft TM and provide comments to the City on April 12.
- 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. The final hearing for the CWIN lawsuit which was scheduled for March 15, 2021 was postponed to April 12, 2021. The Court ruling is scheduled to be made available no later than 90 days from the date of the final hearing date. Calleguas will be waiting on the Court ruling on the CWIN case before presenting the draft agreement to its Board, Casitas may want to wait on the approval of Casitas Comprehensive Water Resources Plan before presenting the draft Agreement to their Board. Approval by the City Council will be the final step.

13. Rive Avenue Grade Separation Project

- Staff received the 95% plans and specifications for utilities relocation, including the District's 30-inch pipeline. The design plans indicate replacement of 802 linear feet (LF) of United's 30-in concrete cylinder pipe with 30-in cement mortar lined and coated steel pipe with 5/16-in thickness. The design plans include the details for flanges, flexible couplings, buttstraps, isolation valves, blow off and combination air and vacuum valves and cathodic test stations.
- In addition, 1256 LF 8-in C-900 DR-25 irrigation line will be connected to downstream of Turn Out # 129 north of the PTP Well Site No. 4 and the existing 8-in PVC line will be abandoned. The new 8-in irrigation line will be routed north along the old Rice Avenue and move easterly along 5th Street. Where the new 8-in irrigation line crosses the East Connector, it will be installed in a 20-in diameter, 3/8-inch think steel casing.
- Staff reviewed the design plans and technical specifications and will provide comments to Kennedy Jenks in May.

14. Coastal Brackish Groundwater Extraction and Treatment Project

• April 21, 2021 – Environmental Services staff issued a Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFQ/P) for Consultant Services for CEQA Documentation and Processing. Engineering staff provided support. Proposals are due on May 21, 2021.

- April 22, 2021 Staff issued a Notice to Proceed to Trussell Technologies for an extended desktop treatment modeling evaluation that includes an optional task to develop a pilot testing plan.
- April 26, 2021 Staff received, compiled and reviewed fourth quarter special sampling results that was conducted at select monitoring wells on Naval Base Ventura County Point Mugu in March 2021.
- April 29, 2021 Engineering, Water Resources and Environmental staff met with U.S. Navy staff to discuss the upcoming project schedule, provide an update on Prop. 1 groundwater modeling efforts, discuss the CEQA/NEPA process, and conceptual design activities.
- Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #2 related to the Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program has been scheduled for May 19, 2021.
- Leadership Meeting No. 3 between the District and Navy staff has been scheduled for May 26, 2021.

15. Asset Management

• On April 23, 2021 Robert Richardson and Erik Zvirbulis met and discussed updating UWCD GIS Shapefiles to get them ready for use in an asset management system.

16. 2020 Urban Water Management Plan

- On March 11, 2021 Staff received Public Draft versions of the UWMP (Sections 1-9) and Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) from Stantec for Staff to review and finalize for public review.
- On March 12, 2021 Staff released the complete Public Draft versions of both the 2020 UWMP and the WSCP to the Public for review (https://www.unitedwater.org/keydocuments/#water-supply). On this date, Staff provided Notice of Public Hearing through a newspaper posting as well and Notices to Stakeholder letters (Customers, Cities, County, Agencies) for the Public Hearing and Public Draft version availability. The Public Hearing was stated to be held at the May 12, 2021 BOD meeting to receive public comments.
- On March 19, Staff provided a second Notice of Public Hearing through a newspaper posting for the Public Hearing and Public Draft version availability.
- On March 29, 2021 Staff held a progress meeting with Stantec to discuss the public hearing and comment process as well as any updates by the Department of Water Resources regarding the UWMP guidebook and future requirements.
- On April 12, the UMWP and WSCP were presented at the Water Resources Committee meeting, and Staff received one public comment related to Figure 1-1 in the UWMP.
- On April 20, Staff met with Stantec to discuss the May 12 public hearing and he update on public comment.

5.2 Monthly Engineering Department Report Information Item

- On April 28, Staff released a third notification for publication through newspaper as reminder for the Public Hearing date on May 12 as well as May 11, no later than 5 pm, as the due date for receipt of written public comment.
- Staff included Motion Item No. 4.4 and Resolution 2021-05 in the May 12 Board meeting agenda, requesting the Board to conduct a public hearing for the proposed 2020 UWMP.
- 17. Emergency Power Supply for UWCD Drinking Water Treatment and Supply Facilities
 Staff's application for the CalOES Grant Program for Community Power Resiliency Allocation
 to Special Districts that was submitted in 2020 was successfully accepted for the grant. The
 grant award of \$198,612 was received in March 2021. This will allow the District to install
 small backup generators at the Lake Piru Water Treatment Plant, at the Flocculation Building
 and at the Santa Paula Communication Tower. Staff has prepared Motion Item No. 4.5 for
 Board's consideration requesting the Board considers approving the CEQA Notice of
 Categorical Exemption determination for the project.

18. Other Topics, Meetings and Training - ALL

- April 1, 2021 Maryam Bral participated in a Prop 1 grant TAC meeting with the SWRCB for the Coastal Brackish Groundwater Extraction Project
- April 6, 2021 Robert Richardson and Erik Zvirbulis participated in an Innovyze webinar entitled "Water Talks | Freese & Nichols Presents ICM"
- April 8, 2021 Maryam Bral, Robert Richardson, and Michel Kadah participated in a session on AIS Mitigation at Piru & HeloPod
- April 15, 2021 Maryam Bral and Robert Richardson participated in an AWA Waterwise Breakfast Meeting entitled "Water and Farming in Ventura County."
- April 21, 2021 Engineering participated in a FERC D2SI Security Branch Webinar
- April 21, 2021 -
- April 20-23, 2021 Maryam Bral participated in the Virtual P3 Water Summit
- April 22, 2021 Maryam Bral and Michel Kadah held a Technical Assistance meeting with NOAA, FERC, Catalyst Environmental Solutions and Rincon.
- April 22-23, Maryam Bral participated in a couple of sessions of the P3 Water Summit.
- April 28, 2021 Michel Kadah participated in the AWA / CCWUC Educational Program entitled "Is your Water Supply Safe from Cyber-Attacks?"
- May 3, 2021 Engineering Staff participated in the OH Users Pipeline Meeting



Figure 1 – OH System Backup Generator Project - Removal of Existing Generator



Figure 2 – OH Well Replacement Project – Well Casing Prior to Installation



Figure 3 – OH Well Replacement Project – Well Construction



Figure 4 – OH Well Replacement Project – Installation of the Conductor Pipe



Figure 5 – Grand Canal Project – Demolition Activities

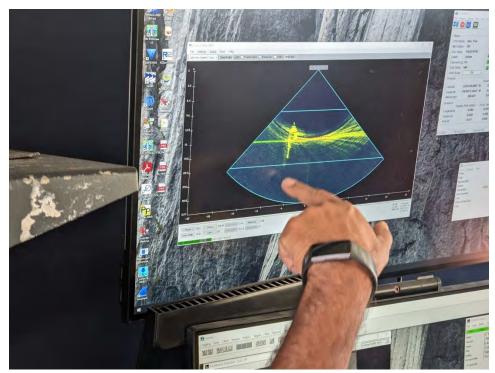


Figure 6 – Fugro's SFD Intake Tower Scan



Figure 7 – LP WTP Topo Survey



To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

Anthony A. Emmert, Assistant General Manager

From: Linda Purpus, Environmental Services Manager

Date: May 3, 2021 (May 12, 2021 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.3 Monthly Environmental Services Department Report

Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file this Monthly staff report on environmental and regulatory issues of note to the District and activities of the Environmental Services Department for the month of April 2021 as well as receive the presentation to the Board supporting this report.

Discussion:

1. <u>Santa Felicia Project Operations and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) License Support</u>

• 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 May 1, 2021. The minimum required habitat water release for the month of May will remain at 7 cfs.

2021 Habitat water release trigger date	Trigger criteria (total cumulative precipitation on trigger date)	Minimum required water release if trigger is met	2021 Measured cumulative precipitation	Actual minimum required habitat water release for month
January 1	4.80 inches	15 cfs	1.73 inches	7 cfs
February 1	8.10 inches	20 cfs	3.27 inches	7 cfs
March 1	12.00 inches	20 cfs	3.28 inches	7 cfs
April 1	14.90 inches	20 cfs	4.57 inches	7 cfs
May 1	16.30 inches	10 cfs	4.57 inches	7 cfs
June 1	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.

• Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project (SFDSIP)

On April 22, 2021, United held a technical assistance meeting with FERC and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to discuss design elements and biological impacts of the SFDSIP.

• Dissolved Oxygen Monitoring Plan

On March 31, 2021, Environmental Services staff submitted a draft annual report to the State Water Board detailing the results of dissolved oxygen monitoring activities conducted during 2020. Consistent with previous years' results, monitoring results from 2020 indicate there is a narrow operational window in which water released from Santa Felicia Dam may not meet Basin Plan water quality objectives. On April 1, 2021, staff met with State Water Board to identify appropriate steps to address the issue. During the meeting, staff proposed next steps (developed through coordination with the Engineering and Operations and Maintenance departments) and identified additional necessary agency coordination.

• Fish Passage Feasibility Assessment

On April 27, 2021, United issued requests for agency participation to representatives from NMFS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Forest Service, and FERC to reconvene the Fish Passage Science and

Technology Panel (group of agency representatives tasked with reviewing and informing activities related to United's assessment of the feasibility of fish passage at the Santa Felicia Project). The purpose of the meeting is to present the results of work conducted as part of the fish passage pre-implementation studies to-date as well as proposed future studies and activities and receive agency feedback.

On April 29, 2021, staff conducted a snorkel survey in the release reach below the Santa Felicia Dam. No *O. mykiss* were observed.

• Vegetation and Noxious Weed Management Plan

On April 19, 2021, Environmental Services staff issued a request for proposals to provide professional services support for the next phase of vegetation and noxious weed management activities under the subject plan.

 California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) FERC License (No. 2426) - South State Water Hydropower Project (Pyramid Lake)

On March 24, 2021, Environmental Services and Water Resources staff met with research scientists to discuss the assessment framework for evaluating affects to Endangered Species Act listed species including arroyo toad, least Bell's vireo, and southwestern willow flycatcher in support of eliminating the 3,150 AF limit for State Water Project deliveries to United from Pyramid Lake under Article 52 of the South State Water Project FERC License. On April 1, 2021, staff conducted a follow-up meeting with research scientists and staff from the USFWS to review past efforts and refine the scope of future assessments to support the effort.

2. Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)

• Environmental Services staff completed reviews of the draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) prepared by GEI Consultants Inc. (GEI) in support of the geotechnical investigations for the Freeman fish passage facility engineering design. Regulatory application packages are complete and will be submitted to the regulatory agencies during the week of May 3, 2021. Pending finalization, the public draft IS/MND will be filed with the County and State Clearinghouse, and circulated for 30-day public review, during the week of May 3, 2021. Following public review, the IS/MND will be submitted to United's Board of Directors for consideration, with a recommendation to adopt the CEQA findings.

3. Quagga Mussel Management

Monitoring

- o On March 31, 2021, Environmental Services staff submitted the 2020 Annual Quagga Mussel Monitoring and Control Report to CDFW. A follow-up consultation meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2021, to discuss the quagga mussel program and annual report.
- O Staff continues to conduct routine monitoring under the Quagga Mussel Monitoring and Control Plan (Plan) including 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.

4 Santa Clara River Watershed Surveys

• During the month of April, Environmental Services staff supported the Water Resources Department in conducting surveys to assess water surface conditions in the Santa Clara River Watershed. On April 19, 2021, staff surveyed the Santa Clara River's rising groundwater and dry gap locations. Surveys began at Torrey Road Bridge where flow was observed. The river was surveyed by foot and end of flow documented at approximately 1,000 ft downstream from the bridge. The Santa Clara River was then surveyed at Cavin Road. Rising groundwater was documented at approximately 5,000 ft downstream of Cavin Road location. Stream gaging was performed upstream from the A Street Bridge in Fillmore and flow was recorded at 15 cfs. Willard Canyon in Santa Paula was surveyed for an intermittent north bank side-channel and flow was measured at 19 cfs.

Additional surveys were conducted on April 21 and April 30, 2021. The surveys documented connectivity and barriers to fish passage within portions of the Santa Paula Creek and Sespe Creek. To date, Santa Paula Creek was surveyed from Telegraph Road to the 126 overpass. Flow was observed and a few minor barriers were documented.

5. Miscellaneous

- On April 15, 2021, Tessa Lenz attended the AWA Waterwise Breakfast Series.
- On April 23, 2021, Tessa Lenz distributed the request for proposals to provide environmental consulting services for the Coastal Brackish Groundwater Treatment Plant Project. Proposals are due May 21, 2021.
- On April 28, 2021, Tessa Lenz attended an Advanced CEQA Workshop designed to discuss legal trends and updates to CEQA document development and analysis.
- On April 29, 2021, staff held technical presentations for Dr. Weber. Environmental Services staff gave a presentation on the environmental requirements of the District's FERC license.



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: April 29, 2021 (May 12, 2020 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.4 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report

Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive and file this staff report from the Operations and Maintenance department regarding its activities for the month of April.

1. Water Releases, Diversions and Deliveries

- Lake Piru dropped 0.51 feet in April to 17,628 acre-feet (AF) of storage.
- 876 AF of water was diverted by the Freeman Diversion facility in April.
- 0 AF of water was diverted to the Saticov recharge basins in April.
- 317 AF of surface water was delivered to the El Rio recharge basins in April.
- 469 AF of surface water was delivered to the PTP system in April.
- 34 AF of surface water was delivered to Pleasant Valley County Water District in April.

2. Major Facilities Update

• Santa Felicia Dam

- o Lake Piru dropped 0.51 feet April 1, 2021 through May 1, 2021, to 17,628 AF of storage.
- On May 1, 2021 the lake level was 72.1 feet below the spillway lip.
- On April 1, 2021, the cumulative rainfall measured at rain station 160 was 3.28 inches which did not exceed the April 1st 14.9 inch trigger; habitat water releases from Santa Felicia Dam (SFD) were maintained at 7 cubic feet per second (cfs), for the month of April, as per the Water Release and Ramping Rate Implementation Plan for lower Piru Creek.
- o Staff coordinated with Aspen Helicopter for herbicide spraying of SFD Dam slope.

• Freeman Diversion, Saticoy, and El Rio Recharge Facilities

o Flows at the Freeman Diversion averaged 15 cfs for the month of April, with 5 cfs of surface water being diverted on May 1, 2021.

Agenda Item: 5.4 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report – Information Item

- O During the month of April, 0 AF of surface water deliveries were made to the Saticoy Recharge Facility.
- o During the month of April, 317 AF of surface water deliveries were made to the El Rio Recharge Facility.
- o Static water levels (distance of water from the well pad to the water table):

	2021	2020	2019
Saticoy	124.5'	87.7'	100.5'
El Rio	121.4'	110.13'	130.12'
PTP	111' - 148'	95' - 128'	120' - 155'

• Noble/Rose/Ferro Basins

o 0 AF of surface water was delivered to the Noble & Rose basins during April.

• Oxnard-Hueneme (OH) Delivery System

- Staff coordinated with OST Crane Service for removal and proper disposal of the old OH Wellfield 750k generator.
- o District staff performed backflow device testing for the Lombard Headquarters.
- o El Rio staff worked with contractor Quinn Power Systems repairing emergency supply natural gas engine coolant tower leaks.
- o Staff coordinated with contractor Oilfield Electric to perform emergency repairs on the OH wellfield electrical circuit.
- o Contractor Extreme Safety performed self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) annual flow testing of regulators.

• Pleasant Valley County Water District (PVCWD)

- O During the month of April PVCWD received 34 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).
- o PV mainline isolation valve was closed due to diminishing surface water supplies impacting staff's abilities to maintain a full pipeline.

• Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP)

- O During the month of April, 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.
- o Staff worked with contractor Summer Construction to perform repairs for the PTP Reservoir eroding embankment slopes.
- o Staff upgraded Turnout 117 with a new flow meter assembly.

Agenda Item: 5.4 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report – Information Item

• Instrumentation

- o Instrumentation staff and contractor Diener's Electric installed two communication poles for PTP meter upgrade project.
- o Staff worked with contractor United Controls upgrading programmable logic controllers (PLC) at the OH Turbidity node and the Desilting Basin outlet.
- o Instrumentation staff installed new radio link between SFD Crest and Piru Shop.
- o Staff configured, wired and performed start-up commissioning for PTP turnout 117 SCADA integrated flow meter assembly.
- o Instrumentation staff assisted with installation and final configuration of the Lake Piru Recreation Wi-Fi network.

• Lake Piru Water System

- o All chlorine residuals and turbidity readings for the drinking water system were within proper ranges for the month of April.
- o 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.
- o Treatment Plant differential pressure transducer and solenoid valve were replaced by staff.

3. Operations and Maintenance Projects Update

• April 21, 2021, staff coordinated with OST Crane for the removal of the old 750 kW OH wellfield emergency generator.

4. Other Operations and Maintenance Activities

- The Santa Felicia Dam Emergency Action Plan sirens located in Piru were exercised on April 2, 2021.
- On April 21, 2021 staff attended the Santa Paula Chamber of Commerce board meeting remotely.
- Staff installed an earthen plug and dismantled electrical panels for the Grand Canal upgrade project.
- Staff installed skirting for the ammonia injection facility fencing.
- The monthly inspection of Santa Felicia Dam was performed.
- Monthly bacteria samples were obtained for the PTP system.
- 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 of the El Rio, Saticoy, and PTP wells.
- Weed abatement continued throughout the District.

Agenda Item: 5.4 Monthly Operations and Maintenance Department Report – Information Item

5. Safety and Training

- During the month of April approximately 3,100 hours of work, within the O & M department, were performed with no reportable accidents. The department's YTD safety record is 1 recordable injury.
- Two separate safety meetings were conducted on April 22 & 23, utilizing the Microsoft Teams application, to maintain social distancing practices and to accommodate the separately scheduled teams. Two videos were provided to staff entitled "Fitting 3MTM 6000 Series Reusable Full-Face Masks by 3MTM" and "Respiratory Safety" by OSHA. An AWWA safety handout entitled "Powerful Protection from PPE" was also briefed to staff. The primary objective was to provide awareness and share safety best practices on material handling, storage, use and disposal. Staff fulfilled Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) compliance requirements by reviewing the Respiratory Protection Policy; general review.
- All O & M department staff have successfully completed FEMA IS 100 Introduction to the Incident Command System and FEMA IS 200 Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response.
- Staff involved in the security efforts for the Santa Felicia Dam participated in the FERC Security Branch Spring webinar along with Engineering, IT, & Risk & Safety representatives.
- 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 April was "Water Industry: Respiratory Protection."

Attachments: A - Operations Log for April

OPERA	OPERATIONS LOG																									
SANTA FELICIA DAM						FREEMAN DIVERSION**				RECHARGE				IRRIGATION				O-H								
DATE	SFD EI.	Stor.	Surface	Evap.	Inflow Balance	Outflow USGS	Hydro	Rain 106E	River	Diverted	Fish*** Facility	Bypass Channel	Crest	El Rio	Saticoy	Facility	Noble/ Rose	Piru	T.I.D.	P.T.P.	PVCV	ND	L.P.	Saticoy 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*		17907		T	6,613	13,083	_	4.57	17,376	16,540	372	460	_	10,005		162	0	0.0	4,373	3,016	1,459	I	0.0	0	6,893	55,038
4/1/21	983.46	17901	538.60	0.288	8	8.12 7.87	0	0.00	20	20	0	0	0	0.11	8	0	0	0.0	23.8	20.6	3.2	0.08	0.0	0.0	39.8 40.7	333
4/2/21	983.45 983.33	17896 17832	538.60 537.60	0.231	-22	8.03	0	0.00	18	18	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0.0	19.1	17.0 14.1	3.2	0.06	0.0	0.0	41.5	324
4/4/21	983.43	17885	538.40	0.195	37	7.69	0	0.00	19	19	0	0	0	10.67	4	0	0	0.0	8.0	2.3	5.7	0.15	0.0	0.0	33.4	272
4/5/21	983.41	17875	538.20	0.220	5	7.71	0	0.00	20	20	0	0	0	9.87	0	0	0	0.0	19.8	18.9	0.9	0.02	0.0	0.0	40.0	309
4/6/21	983.39	17864	538.10	0.170	4	7.7	0	0.00	18	18	0	0	0	5.19	0	0	0	0.0	24.2	21.7	2.5	0.07	0.0	0.0	39.3	327
4/7/21	983.39	17864	538.10	0.199	10	7.69	0	0.00	16	16	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0.0	23.7	22.5	1.2	0.04	0.0	0.0	38.9	313
4/8/21	983.39	17864	538.10	0.174	10	7.67	0	0.00	15	15	0	0	0	0.01	5	0	0	0.0	19.3	17.7	1.6	0.05	0.0	0.0	43.8	333
4/9/21	983.37	17853	537.90	0.212	5	7.69	0	0.00	15	15	0	0	0	0.02	6	0	0	0.0	17.7	15.9	1.8	0.06	0.0	0.0	40.0	299
4/10/21	983.35	17842	537.80	0.272	5	7.69	0	0.00	15	15	0	0	0	1.77	6	0	0	0.0	15.2	12.7	2.5	0.08	0.0	0.0	34.8	263
4/11/21	983.33 983.31	17832 17821	537.60 537.40	0.250	5	7.72 7.74	0	0.00	16	16	0	0	0	9.11	-2	0	0	0.0	9.4	4.7 18.0	4.7 2.6	0.15	0.0	0.0	29.0 35.4	223 275
4/13/21	983.29	17810	537.30	0.117	3	7.73	0	0.00	16	16	0	0	0	1.76	4	0	0	0.0	19.2	18.7	0.5	0.00	0.0	0.0	31.6	252
4/14/21	983.27	17799	537.10	0.140	4	7.72	0	0.00	16	16	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0.0	18.7	17.1	1.6	0.05	0.0	0.0	32.0	253
4/15/21	983.26	17794	537.00	0.179	7	7.75	0	0.00	15	15	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0.0	16.0	16.1	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	29.8	239
4/16/21	983.24	17783	536.90	0.185	5	7.99	0	0.00	14	14	0	0	0	5.09	2	0	0	0.0	15.0	18.5	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	32.0	249
4/17/21	983.22	17772	536.70	0.188	4	7.76	0	0.00	14	14	0	0	0	11.93	-5	0	0	0.0	13.2	15.9	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	33.5	266
4/18/21	983.20	17762	536.50	0.212	5	7.68	0	0.00	14	14	0	0	0	8.34	3	0	0	0.0	4.9	5.7	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	29.4	230
4/19/21	983.18	17751	536.40	0.285	5	7.66	0	0.00	15	15	0	0	0	7.21	1	0	0	0.0	12.3	14.4	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	30.6	244
4/20/21	983.15 983.13	17735 17724	536.10 536.00	0.354	4	7.68	0	0.00	14	14	0	0	0	9.61	-5 -4	0	0	0.0	14.1	17.4 16.7	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	32.3	262 245
4/21/21	983.11	17724	535.80	0.100	3	7.69	0	0.00	13	13	0	0	0	10.34	-4	0	0	0.0	14.3	16.3	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	30.9	239
4/23/21	983.09	17703	535.70	0.171	5	7.69	0	0.00	12	12	0	0	0	8.08	-3	0	0	0.0	13.0	14.8	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	30.2	245
4/24/21	983.07	17692	535.50	0.167	4	7.7	0	0.00	12	12	0	0	0	7.48	-3	0	0	0.0	13.6	16.8	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	29.6	234
4/25/21	983.05	17681	535.30	0.179	4	7.7	0	0.00	13	13	0	0	0	12.72	-2	0	0	0.0	4.5	5.3	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	22.7	187
4/26/21	983.04	17676	535.30	0.151	7	7.69	0	0.00	15	15	0	0	0	10.51	-3	0	0	0.0	14.4	16.8	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	26.6	217
4/27/21	983.02	17665	535.10	0.177	4	7.69	0	0.00	13	13	0	0	0	7.78	-5	0	0	0.0	20.1	23.1	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	29.4	246
4/28/21	982.99	17649	534.90	0.242	2	7.66	0	0.00	11	11	0	0	0	0.1	4	0	0	0.0	14.0	15.8	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	32.8	266
4/29/21	982.98 982.95	17644 17628	534.80 534.50	0.295	3	7.67 7.91	0	0.00	10	10	0	0	0	0.43	3	0	0	0.0	16.0	17.9 15.3	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	31.0	258 237
4/30/21	702.73	17020	554.50	0.200	3	7.91	0	0.00	7	7	0	0	0	0.00	3	0	0	0.0	12.3	15.5	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0	30.3	231
TOTAL CFS					162	232		0.00	443	443	0	0	0	160	46	0	0	0.0								
AVERAGE (CFS				5	8			15	15	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	0.0								
TOTAL A/F					321	460			876	876	0	0	0	317	91	0	0	0.0	468	469	34		0	0.0	1003	7951
MONTHLY F		DATE (a	pprox.)				\$0	K																		
AVERAGE /	\/F				11	15			29	29	0	0	0	11	3	0	0	0.0	16	16	1	3%	0	0.0	33	265
WATER YE					6,934	13,543	eeeeeelle	4.57	18,252	17,416	372	460	0	10,322	2,2	253	0	0.0	4,841	3,485	1,493		0	0	7,896	62,989
	* Input total A/F previous month ** Daily averages imported from Ranch Systems																									
	0 1		nil fishladde		L be and smol	t bypass pip	ne ne																			
I Includes F	Includes Ponds A, C, E, and I overflows, temporary storage in the desilting basin and Pond B, JLB diversions, losses between meters. Negatives mean prior storage from pond B or desilting basin is discharging to other metered sources.																									



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

From: Clayton W. Strahan, Chief Park Ranger

Date: April 24, 2021 (May 12, 2021 Meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.5 Monthly Park and Recreation Division Report

Information item

Staff Recommendation:

The Board will receive this staff report and a presentation from the Park and Recreation Division staff regarding its activities for the month of April 2021.

Discussion:

The month of April brought warmer weather and new developments to the Lake Piru Recreation Area. We welcomed a significant number of guests back, and many expressed their gratitude to be able to enjoy the camping and day-use facilities. Recreation staff handled the day-to-day cleaning and operational tasks typical to the operation of the park, as well as several significant maintenance projects. Staff also laid the groundwork for a bright future with several significant developments. Discussions moved forward with vendors for vending machines and the store, as well as boat rentals at the marina. Additionally, the Wi-Fi project was finally completed thanks to the significant efforts of the District Operations & Maintenance and IT teams. The warmer weather and increased visitation also increased the workload for the Park Rangers who did their best to maintain a clean and safe environment for the guests. Among the notable events was an unauthorized baptism in the lake, numerous broken-down vessels which required assistance, a small fire in the Olive Grove campground, and a dog bitten by a rattlesnake which unfortunately did not survive.

1. Staff Tasks and Activities

- **April 1**: With assistance from O&M Staff, replaced broken electrical pedestals in the Olive Grove campground.
- April 1, 3, 4, 5, 22, 23, and 24: Performed minor plumbing repairs in the Olive Grove restroom and marina facilities.
- **April 2**: Acquired and operated generators to ensure continuity of operations during a planned power outage.
- April 5, 11, and 19: Installed soap and hand sanitizer dispensers in an ADA-compliant manner throughout the Recreation Area.

- April 5 and 12: Installed "Quiet Hours" signs at the entrance to the Olive Grove and Oak Lane camping areas.
- **April 6**: Worked to refurbish and repaint the "Lake Piru" sign (log by the entry kiosk) as part of the Board's prior "art in public places" request.
- **April 8**: Repainted several "No Parking" red curbs in the Recreation Area to ensure traffic safety measures and enhance the appearance of the park.
- April 9 and 15: Removed a broken change machine and refinished the exterior of the building where it was located.
- **April 12**: Mitigated vandalism to the Pothole Trailhead parking facility. These efforts required re-setting boulders and adding additional boulders at the Pothole Trailhead after reports were received that someone had moved the boulders to allow unauthorized persons/vehicles to bypass the gate on Piru Canyon Road.
- **April 15 and 16**: Performed tile repairs in the upper Olive Grove restroom and refinished the floor in several areas which had become safety hazards.
- **April 20**: Assisted IT staff with the implementation of Wi-Fi services throughout the Olive Grove Campground. This project is now complete and live for public use.
- **April 23**: Performed weed abatement and brush clearance in conjunction with Pacific Vista Landscapes to enhance the parks appearance and to comply with fire safety regulations.
- **April 24**: Cleaned and removed several areas of graffiti vandalism in the lower Olive Grove restroom.

2. Staff Training/Meetings/Events

- Weekly throughout April: Completed regular Daily Training Bulletins and policy updates through District vendor Lexipol.
- **Throughout April:** Participated in eight meetings to Southeast Publications to refine the mysites.com reservation systems and financial reporting practices for the Recreation Division.
- **April 6:** Met with representatives from the Santa Clarita Tourism Bureau and Visit California to develop marketing partnerships with the two firms.
- April 7: Hosted and attended the monthly Recreation Committee meeting.
- April 6, 8, and 21: Met internally with the Engineering Department and once with the General Manger to discuss the ongoing efforts associated with the Park and Recreation Division master planning process.
- April 21: Met with Tannenbaum Vending to try and secure a proposal for vending concessions services at Lake Piru.
- April 22: Met with a representative from a perspective bidder associated with the Lake Piru Marina operation to discuss the potential operating agreement for rental boat operations in the future at Lake Piru.
- April 23: Participated in the monthly District-wide safety meeting.

3. Revenue and Visitation Recap

2021 Day Use Revenue Recap and Comparison							
2021 Day Use Revenue (Jan. 1-April 24, 2021)	\$87,822.50						
2020 Day Use Revenue (Jan. 1-April 31, 2020)	\$9,731.25						
2019 Day Use Revenue (Jan. 1-April 31, 2019)	\$36,086.60						
2018 Day Use Revenue (Jan. 1-April 31, 2018)	\$22,935.40						
Total Revenue Increase/Decrease from Prior Year	\$78,091.25						
Annual Increase in %	802%						
2021 Camping Revenue Recap and Comparison							
2021 Camping Revenue (Feb. 19-Apr. 24, 2021)	\$125,978.30**						
2020 Camping Revenue (Jan. 1-Apr. 30, 2020)	\$47,469.80						
2019 Camping Revenue (Jan. 1-Apr. 30, 2019)	\$178,568.03						
2018 Camping Revenue (Jan. 1-Apr. 30, 2018)	\$96,886.20						
Current and Record Year Comparison (2019 vs. 2021)							
2021 Combined revenue (Jan. 1 to Apr.24)	\$213,800.80***						
2019 Combined Revenue (Jan. 1 to Apr. 30)	\$214,654.63						

^{**} Camping Revenue has been impacted by the park closure order due to COVID-19. Camping reservations resumed on February 19, 2021 and in person camping did not begin until March 11.

^{***} It should be noted that 2019 was one of the parks highest revenue regarding years in the history of the park. 2021 is on pace to exceed both the 2019 day use and camping revenue figures with 119 of reservations and in person camping in 2019 and only 61 days of reservations and 44 days of in person camping in 2021.

2021 Total Visitation Figures										
Month	# Nights/Sites	# People	# Vehicles	# Vessels						
January	0	2,627	1,196	219						
February	0	2,047	1,049	155						
March	243	3,473	1,771	393						
April (1-24)	508	5,172	2,237	427						

4. Incidents/Arrests/Medicals

- April 11: Rangers responded to a report of a couple on the northern floating restroom fighting with each other. Upon arrival, the rangers learned that the couple had been paddling their canoe back across the lake when they overturned and lost their belongings, including the paddles. Rangers determined that no crime had occurred and safely transported the couple and their canoe back to their vehicle.
- April 13: Rangers responded to a report of a person screaming in the area of the marina. The person was contacted and exhibited paranoia and unusual behavior. Rangers escorted the subject out of the Recreation Area after determining that he had not paid an entry fee. Based on his behavior, rangers contacted the Ventura County Sheriff's Office for an evaluation of the subject's wellbeing. Deputies determined that the subject was experiencing a mental health crisis and transported him for mental health care.

- April 17: Rangers responded to a report of a guest's dog which was bitten by a rattlesnake. Upon arrival, rangers found that the rattlesnake had already been killed by another guest. Ranger offered the guest options for emergency vet care and disposed of the snake. Sadly, the dog had to be put down.
- April 17: Recreation staff put out a fire in the Olive Grove campground that was ignited as a result of a guest's campfire. The guest had sprayed lighter fluid onto the lit fire, causing flames to travel upwards into the bottle. The guest panicked and threw the bottle, causing a fire at the base of a fence. Fortunately, Recreation Staff happened to be in the area and extinguished the fire with a hose before it could spread or cause damage.
- April 18: Rangers responded to a medical call in the Olive Grove campground and evaluated an infant boy who had a fever. Aside from a mild fever, there was no indication of a medical emergency. The boy's parents declined ambulance services and decided to take the child for medical treatment later in the day.
- April 24: Recreation staff noted several pieces of graffiti vandalism in the lower Olive Grove restroom and reported the incident to Park Rangers. Rangers investigated the graffiti and determined that it was associated with a criminal street gang from Tustin, California. Photos of the graffiti and information gathered during the investigation was forwarded to the Ventura County Sheriff's Office for follow-up and the graffiti was removed.

5. <u>Citations/Enforcement Summary</u>

Throughout April, two citations were issued for violations of Ordinance 15:

- 1. Fishing after hours
- 2. Allowing a person under 13 on a personal watercraft without a personal flotation device

In addition, 19 written warnings were issued for violations of Ordinance 15:

- 1. Entering the Recreation Area without paying
- 2. Fishing after hours
- 3. California Vehicle Code violations
- 4. Harbor & Navigation Code violations for boating safety

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: April 27, 2021 (May 12, 2021, meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.6 Monthly Water Resources Department Report

Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

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

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 completed various future model runs in support of area Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs). These model runs account for significant land use changes that affect runoff in the Santa Clara River watershed and apply climate change factors to historical streamflow and rainfall records, as required to simulate future hydrology for the GSAs.

- O Staff has begun the process of converting the 2018 version of the groundwater flow model (coastal plain basins) to a new software version that allows for the simulation of salinity changes associated with saline intrusion in the coastal areas surrounding Pt. Mugu and Port Hueneme, as part of the Coastal Brackish Project Prop 1-funded feasibility study.
- 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. The lithologic picks in individual boreholes are being converted to surfaces for the model refinements in this area.
- Staff continue to help the Environmental Services Department (ESD) evaluate effects of existing and potential future surface water flow conditions at the Freeman Diversion.
 - o 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. 3,150 AF has been received and we have the option to purchase an additional 1,260 AF.
- Staff continue to collaborate with the Engineering Department with development and design of a portfolio of new or improved water-supply projects within the District's service area. Staff are meeting biweekly (with consulting engineers from Kennedy-Jenks) to refine estimates of project yields and costs, and to better optimize planned projects so that they yield the best value in terms of sustainable yield for the groundwater basins in United's service area. Model input fines are being developed.
- Staff delivered monthly water budgets for local basins over the past 35 years and other basin storage and discharge information to consultants working for Calleguas MWD as part of an emergency water supply interruption contingency planning effort.
- Staff supported the Engineering Department and a consultant in developing the updates to United's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan for its OH and Lake Piru water-supply systems.
- Staff supported the Engineering Department by providing oversight of construction and mechanical development of El Rio water well #19 (replacing El Rio Well #6). Staff are currently planning for pumping development and aquifer testing of this well.
- Outreach and Educational Activities:
 - o Staff attended aa April 28 webinar on the differing approaches to groundwater basin management in Orange and Los Angeles Counties.



Staff Report

To: UWCD Board of Directors

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

From: Maryam Bral, Chief Engineer

Dan Detmer, Supervising Hydrogeologist

Date: April 27, 2021 (May 12, 2021, meeting)

Agenda Item: 5.7 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

Information Item

Staff Recommendation:

Receive a summary report of Water Resources Department activities related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) for the groundwater basins within District boundaries.

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 April 28, at 1:30 pm. The meeting will be held after the submission of this staff report, and therefore a summary will be included in next month's staff report. A meeting agenda was not available at the time this staff report was prepared.

OPV Core Stakeholder Group meetings -

The OPV Core Stakeholder Group and the FCGMA Executive Committee held a joint special meeting on April 15, at 2:00 pm. Notable topics included:

• Board received a presentation from the facilitator on the proposed outline of the report, including OPV stakeholder engagement, methodologies of allocation reduction, minimum allocation, and ending allocation.

Agenda Item: 5.7 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Information Item

Page 2

• Board received a presentation from Agency staff on potential unregistered wells within the Agency boundary, reasons why unregistered wells may exist, past and current efforts to bring unregistered wells into compliance and provide feedback and recommendations.

The OPV Variance Review Committee held a special meeting on April 6, at 2:00pm. Agency staff presented an overview of what conditions must be met for a variance request to be approved and a summary of the variance applications received by the Agency. Each application will be considered separately, with a discussion including staff and the applicant. Committee recommendations of approval or denial for individual applications will be sent to FCGMA Board of Directors.

The meeting of the Legal *Ad Hoc* Committee of the OPV Core Stakeholder Group scheduled for April 16 was postponed to April 30. 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 special Board meeting on April 1, at 5:00 pm. Notable topics included:

- Board received a presentation on the draft Sustainable Groundwater Management Criteria matrix from Daniel B. Stephens & Associates.
- Stakeholder input and discussion on the draft Sustainable Groundwater Management Criteria matrix and comments related to the draft Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Technical Memorandum by Stillwater Sciences.

A regular FPBGSA Board meeting was held on April 15, at 5:00 pm. Notable topics included:

• Stakeholder input and discussion on the draft Sustainable Groundwater Management Criteria matrix, with a focus on finalizing the criteria related to land subsidence and surface water/groundwater interaction near the basin boundaries.

The next Special FPBGSA Board meeting is scheduled for May 6 at 5:00 pm, for Board consideration and approval of the proposed matrix of Sustainable Management Criteria. The next regular FPBGSA Board meeting is scheduled for May 20, at 5:00 pm.

GSP preparation – Consultant DBS&A have reported progress on various work products in support of GSP development. 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 remains available on the agency website.

Agenda Item: 5.7 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Information Item

Page 3

Modeling – 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, forecasted groundwater pumping and base flows from Los Angeles County have been completed and provided to the technical consultant for the GSA. Additional scenarios with reduced pumping near riparian areas have been provided to help assess impacts associated with pumping compared to drought.

New Monitoring Wells – Staff is helping coordinate land access agreements with landowners in opportune locations for new monitoring wells funded by a DWR Technical Support Services grant.

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 April 15. Notable topics of discussion included:

- The Board received a status update from Executive Director Bryan Bondy on GSP development and schedule. Staff are working towards submission of the draft GSP to the Board for possible approval at the June 2021 MBGSA meeting.
- MBGSA continues to pursue installation of monitoring wells through DWR's technical Support Services (TSS) grants program for GSP development and implementation. Executive Director Bryan Bondy provided an update on the progress, stating that MBGSA is working with the City on an access agreement and a building permit.

The next regular MBGSA Board meeting is scheduled for May 20, at 1:00 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 draft text, tables, and figures in support of the water-budget and monitoring sections of the GSP. United staff are currently updating text, tables, and figures for Sections 3.1 and 3.2 (Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model and Groundwater Conditions) based on the latest information and comments received from the MBGSA Executive Director and will continue to provide review and other support as requested to assist the MBGSA with preparation of a complete public-review draft GSP.

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:

Agenda Item: 5.7 Update on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Information Item

Page 4

- 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.

U.S. Senate Passes Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act – Includes U.S. Senator Alex Padilla's Amendment on Water Sustainability to Help California Tackle Coming Drought

April 30, 2021 - WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Alex Padilla (D-Calif.), a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) committee, announced provisions he secured in the



Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act, bipartisan legislation to improve drinking water quality across America that passed the Senate on Thursday by a vote of 89-2. The bill included Padilla's amendment to help California communities tackle the coming drought by making water sustainability and water recycling projects eligible for Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funding. This is Padilla's first amendment filed in the Senate, adopted on his 100^{th} day in office.

"Every American should have access to clean, safe drinking water," said Senator Padilla. "Sadly, that is not the case today. One million Californians, and millions of Americans, cannot drink their tap water due to contamination or lack of sustainable drinking water sources. Your zip code or your income level should not dictate your access to healthy drinking water. That's why I worked to secure provisions that will

help smaller and lower-income communities connect to quality water supplies. As California again grapples with drought, I am proud my first amendment adopted by the Senate will support sustainable water projects."

Padilla authored an amendment in the water bill to make stormwater reuse and groundwater recharge projects eligible for the newly reauthorized EPA Alternative Water Source Projects pilot program. This program supports efforts to conserve, manage, reclaim or reuse water resources. Developing sustainable water supplies is critical for California as it enters its second year of drought conditions.

Padilla also partnered with Senator Feinstein (D-Calif.) to allow water recycling projects to apply for EPA construction funding even if they've already received funding from the Bureau of Reclamation. Projects that receive Bureau of Reclamation funding for a feasibility study are currently prohibited from also applying for EPA construction funds.

As a member of the EPW committee, Padilla <u>helped secure</u> inclusion of the following provisions:

- Reauthorization of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, known as WIFIA, which has provided \$3.3 billion in financing for California water projects.
- Grants to assist small and disadvantaged communities to connect low-income households that do not have safe drinking water to a municipal public drinking water system.
- A new EPA pilot program, the Rural and Low-Income Drinking Water Assistance Pilot Program, which will address water affordability by providing direct financial assistance and debt relief to water systems serving predominantly low-income households.

This legislation now moves to the House of Representatives.



April 30, 2021

Drought threatens wildlife, agriculture

State Senate details proposal to spend \$3.4B on water crisis

By Adam Beam, ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO – Mired in yet another drought that threatens drinking water, endangered species of fish and the state's massive agriculture industry, Democrats in the California Senate on Thursday detailed a \$3.4 billion proposal designed to gird the state for a new crisis on the heels of a deadly and disruptive pandemic. The proposal would equal all of the state's combined spending during the previous drought, which lasted from 2012 to 2016, according to the Legislative Analyst's Office. That drought occurred after the Great Recession, when California routinely battled multibillion- dollar budget deficits and struggled to pay for state services.

But this year, California is flush with cash after the forecasts of damaging deficits because of the pandemic never came true. Nine months into California's fiscal year, the state has so far collected \$16.7 billion more in

taxes than it had predicted. In addition, the federal government has sent the state \$26 billion as part of a coronavirus relief package with broad authority on how to spend it.

"We live in an unprecedented time and ... I think we shouldn't have unprecedented patience," said state Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins. "We really have an opportunity now and we should take advantage of it."

California gets nearly all of its rain and snow in the winter and early spring. But this year, snowpack in the Sierra Nevada mountains is less than half of normal while most of the state is well below their normal precipitation amounts. The Senate proposal does not include money for big projects, like building new reservoirs or repairing canals in the Central Valley. Instead, the money would bolster projects and programs the state is already doing, setting them up for the dry, hot months ahead.

"We've been working with them to identify noncontroversial early action projects that will assist now – not six months from now, not a year or two or three years from now," said Danny Merkley, director of water resources for the California Farm Bureau. Merkley said he was involved in the discussions and he is "encouraged" by the proposal.

The Senate, Assembly and Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration would need to agree on any new spending. Newsom will reveal his updated budget proposal next month. Assembly Democrats updated their "budget blueprint" on Wednesday to include "increased investments"

in things like "drought resiliency" and clean water. Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon said Thursday he looks forward to negotiating with Newsom and Senate leaders on a final proposal.

About \$285 million would be spent protecting fish and wildlife from the drought, including the state buying back water from farmers so it can be returned to the Sacramento and San Joaquin river delta, reducing the salinity of the water and making it safer for fish. It would also spend money on monitoring the salmon, which must swim up the state's drought-depleted rivers to spawn.

But John McManus, president of the Golden State Salmon Association, worried the proposal didn't do enough for the state's endangered fish species.

"All the technology in the world so far is only delivering to us the best documented extinction of native species," he said, referencing the delta smelt, a small fish native to California that some scientists say is practically extinct in the wild.

About a third of the money, or \$1 billion, would pay off the accumulated debt of unpaid water bills in the state, a problem caused by pandemic-induced economic downturn. That money comes from the federal government, part of the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package President Joe Biden signed in March.

The rest of the money would come from a variety of sources, including state tax dollars.

About half a billion dollars would pay for things like trucking emergency water into cisterns for

small communities, rural storage tanks, and construction to connect smaller water systems to bigger ones to ensure access to potable water in summer.

About \$75 million would pay for things like remote sensors and gauges to measure snow and rain to help officials make decisions about how much water they should keep in reservoirs. That money includes \$15 million to help the state better predict atmospheric rivers – the long, narrow bands of water vapor that form over the ocean and flow through the sky.

This phenomenon creates between 30% and 50% of annual precipitation on the West Coast of the United States, so knowing when and where they will occur can help officials plan on how to capture and store that water and better manage reservoirs.

About \$500 million would pay for things like grants so homeowners and local officials can replace grassy lawns and medians with landscapes that rely on little or no water. The money would also help farmers upgrade their irrigation systems to be more efficient.

Atkins, who lives in San Diego, said she and her spouse have already replaced their lawn to be more water efficient, although they did not take money from a state program.

"That's very clearly happening throughout communities in California because we understand what's at stake," she said.



California Senate Proposes To Spend \$3.4 Billion On Drought

Thursday, April 29, 2021

Adam Beam / Associated Press



Credit: Office of the Governor of California

Above: Gov. Gavin Newsom announcing drought emergency in Mendocino and Sonoma counties, April 21, 2021.

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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD LINDA PARKS, Chair MATT LAVERE KELLY LONG ROBERT O. HUBER CARMEN RAMIREZ

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF VENTURA

GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION 800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009

April 27, 2021

Board of Supervisors County of Ventura 800 S. Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: Presentation of the 2021 Earth Day Awards

Recommendation:

Receive and file

Discussion:

Earth Day was established in 1970 as an annual observance on April 22nd to remind people of their shared responsibility to be good environmental stewards of the Earth. Since then a global effort has been put forth each year to spark enthusiasm, conversation and festivities about the natural world in which we live. In celebration of Earth Day, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors honors individuals and organizations that go above and beyond to support sustainable living and environmentally sound practices in Ventura County.

Please join me in congratulating the 2021 Earth Day Award recipients for their many accomplishments in working towards a healthier, greener environment for our communities.

District 1: The C.R.E.W. of Ojai

District 2: Dr. Catherine Darst, US Fish and Wildlife Service

District 3: Piru Stormwater Capture for Groundwater Recharge Project

District 4: Hal Ward

District 5: Shirley and Larry Godwin

Sincerely,

Linda Parks

Supervisor, Second District

For Excellence in Environmental Stewardship 2021 Earth Day Award County of Ventura

For Groundwater Recharge Project Piru Stormwater Capture

Matt LaVere, 1"District

Linda Parks, 2nd District

Chair of the Board

Carmen Randirez, 5th District

Presented this 27th day of April, 2021

Robert O. Haber, 4th District



April 25, 2021 - Opinion

As drought hits state, long-term issues loom

By the time this column is published, Northern California may be receiving some much-needed rain, and possibly some snow.

However, late-season precipitation does not change the reality that California is in one of its periodic droughts after two dry years.

Major Northern California reservoirs are only about half-full due to scanty runoff from mountain snowpacks, farmers are getting tiny percentages of their normal water allotments, and local water agencies are beginning to impose restrictions on household use. We've seen many droughts, but this one seems somehow different, perhaps because it's occurring just as Californians are trying to recover, personally and economically, from the deadly COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, some aspects will be different, particularly for farmers who generally consume three quarters of the water distributed for human use in California. During previous droughts, farmers survived by purchasing extra water, by drilling wells to tap underground aquifers, and by persuading officials to divert water that otherwise would maintain wildlife habitats.

During the previous multi-year drought, San Joaquin Valley aquifers were so heavily overdrafted that in many areas the land above them collapsed, a phenomenon

known as "subsidence." A section of the Friant-Kern canal was rendered inoperable. In 2014, the Legislature and then-Gov. Jerry Brown enacted an historic groundwater regulation law aimed at preventing a recurrence.

The law's precise groundwater restrictions are still being formulated, but it's evident that farmers will not be able, this time around, to pump as much water as they want to offset curtailed supplies from reservoirs. Many will be compelled to leave some fields unplanted, beginning what agricultural economists believe will be widespread farmland fallowing as groundwater rules take effect.

California farmers had an ally in former President Donald Trump, who pushed federal officials to maximize agricultural diversions from the Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta and reduce flows for fish and other wildlife. However, with Joe Biden in the White House, such diversions will be a harder sell. Farmers also want Gov. Gavin Newsom to declare a drought emergency so they can press him for more Delta water, but while Newsom declared an emergency in Mendocino and Sonoma counties last week, he's clearly reluctant to do it for the whole state. If he did, it could put him in a nowin situation as he faces a recall election later this year — damned by environmentalists if he helps farmers by hurting the Delta and damned by farmers if he doesn't.

However this drought plays out, California faces longer-term water supply issues, including the projected impacts of climate change, such as diminishing winter snowpacks.

Newsom's administration has published a "Water Resilience Portfolio" aimed at managing those issues and hinged on an assumption that the state's many water interests will act cooperatively to meet the common threat. However, California water supply has always been more contentious than cooperative, pitting north against the south, urban areas against rural communities, and farmers against environmentalists. Lurking in the background of this drought, as well as the uncertain supply future, is what would be the most divisive of all water issues — water rights, some of which date back more than a century.

Dan Walters, CalMatters Commentary Columnist



Biden Admin. Designates Protected Humpback Whale Habitat

By Clark Mindock

Law360 (April 20, 2021, 6:30 PM EDT) -- The Biden administration on Tuesday issued a final rule designating 116,098 square nautical miles of the Pacific Ocean as critical habitat for three populations of endangered humpback whales, intended to protect the whales from entanglement in fishing gear and ship strikes.

An unpublished version of the final rule was posted on the Federal Register by the <u>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</u>, and is set to be published officially Wednesday, nearly three years after the <u>Center for Biological Diversity</u>, Wishtoyo Foundation and Turtle Island Restoration Network secured a legal victory that led to the Trump administration's 2019 proposed rule to protect the humpback whales through the Endangered Species Act.

The groups celebrated the finalized rule on Tuesday, which they said will help protect migrating whales from fishing gear, oil spills and ship strikes.

"Pacific humpbacks finally got the habitat protections they've needed for so long. Now we need to better protect humpbacks from ship strikes and entanglement in fishing gear, their leading causes of death," Catherine Kilduff, an attorney with CBD, said in a statement. "To recover West Coast populations of these playful, majestic whales, we need mandatory ship speed limits and conversion of California's deadly trap fisheries to ropeless gear."

The decision follows a March 2018 lawsuit against the <u>U.S. Department of Commerce</u>'s <u>National Marine Fisheries Service</u> for not acting quickly enough to designate critical habitat for three populations of humpbacks listed under the Endangered Species Act. The environmental groups were joined by Native-led organizations in alleging that the act

required the NMFS to designate critical habitat to protect the populations once the agency had listed them.

The environmental groups brought the suit after more than a year had passed since the populations were listed. NMFS <u>agreed</u> in August 2018 to the environmentalists' demand that it set deadlines for deciding whether to designate habitat for the whales.

At that time the government said it would propose determinations about whether to designate critical habitat for the Western North Pacific, Mexico and Central America distinct population segments of humpback whales by June 2019, and would reach final conclusions by 2020.

The lawsuit arose after the government's September 2016 decision to remove the species-level endangered listing for humpback whales, and to delist nine of the whale's 14 distinct populations altogether.

The government had decided to change the animal's listing due to its successful population recovery. The government said humpback whales, which were listed as endangered in the 1970s largely because they were aggressively hunted, had recovered because of international conservation efforts and a moratorium on whaling.

Four distinct populations of humpbacks are still listed as endangered: Cape Verde Islands/Northwest Africa, Western North Pacific, Central America and Arabian Sea. The Mexico population segment is listed as threatened.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration didn't immediately respond to a request for comment Tuesday.

--Additional reporting by Juan Carlos Rodriguez and Michael Phillis. Editing by Regan Est



Judge Says Species Protection Not Among Dam Purposes

By Michael Phillis

Law360 (April 19, 2021, 5:34 PM EDT) -- A California federal judge rejected environmental groups' suit aimed at securing more water releases from a dam near Santa Maria for a protected trout's benefit, deciding that species conservation was not among the purposes Congress included in the project's authorization.

U.S. District Judge André Birotte Jr. said that after a thorough review of the 1950s-era law that authorized the Twitchell Dam, species conservation isn't included as one of the "other purposes" for the dam that would allow water flows to be increased. Releasing more water for the benefit of the Endangered Species Act-protected Southern California Steelhead trout would allow water to flow into the ocean, which is considered waste according to the dam's authorization, the judge said.

"The use plaintiffs seek is not incidental to the express purposes of the project, but instead is a wholly different purpose that detracts from fulfilling the project's express purposes," the judge wrote on Thursday.

San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper and Los Padres ForestWatch argued that the Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District, the U.S. <u>Bureau of Reclamation</u> and others were violating the Endangered Species Act by failing to release enough water, which harmed the protected Steelhead trout. Without enough water, the trout can't spawn properly, the groups say.

The environmental groups oppose the operating plan for the Twitchell Dam on the Cuyama River, which captures water in order to replenish nearby groundwater supplies instead of allowing freshwater to drain into the Pacific Ocean.

The judge said the conflict came down to whether the law that authorized the dam gives "defendants discretion to operate Twitchell dam as plaintiffs seek to avoid take," which is a term referring to the harm or killing of the species. If the dam operators don't have discretion to increase water flows for species protection, then they aren't liable under the ESA.

The dam was authorized via Public Law 774 in the 1950s. The judge analyzed a variety of information including a report the Secretary of the Interior wrote when the dam was being considered and detailed its aims and whether "other purposes" included conservation efforts, as the environmental groups claim. The judge found the report considered flow rates and fish loss

from the dam. There was no recommendation to increase flows to help the fish when the dam was being considered, however, the judge said.

The judge found that releasing more water for the fish's benefit couldn't be squared with the dam's purpose.

"The court finds that operating Twitchell Dam in the manner that the plaintiffs propose is so foreign to the original express purposes of Twitchell Dam as to be arbitrary and capricious," the judge said. "This is because releasing water that will necessarily flow into the ocean – as Plaintiffs seek – conflicts with the express water conservation purpose of Twitchell dam."

Water is supposed to be conserved, and water that flows into the ocean is considered waste, according to the opinion. PL 774 is aimed at conserving water "underground by maximizing groundwater recharge by limiting releases from the dam," the judge wrote.

According to the judge, the operators of the dam do not have discretion to release more water for the trout's protection and therefore have not violated the ESA.

Maggie Hall, an attorney with Environmental Defense Center representing Los Padres ForestWatch, said that release from the dam is "critical to the long-term survival and recovery" of the endangered trout.

"Appropriate releases would also benefit the health of the greater Santa Maria River watershed for local communities and other wildlife," Hall told Law360 in an email. "We believe the district court's ruling overlooks important mandates of the Endangered Species Act and are evaluating our options."

In October, the Ninth Circuit <u>said</u> the federal government was immune from a suit by the same two groups in another case challenging the operation of the dam.

Representatives for the various parties did not immediately return requests for comment Monday.

San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper is represented by Erica A. Maharg and Jason R. Flanders of Aqua Terra Aeris LLP and Daniel Cooper of <u>Sycamore Law</u>. Los Padres ForestWatch is represented by Margaret Hall and Linda Krop of the Environmental Defense Center.

The Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District is represented by Mario A. Juarez and Richard E. Adam of Juarez Adam & Farley LLP.

The federal government is represented by Bridget Kennedy McNeil of the <u>U.S. Department of</u> Justice Environment and Natural Resources Division.

The case is San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper et al. v. Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District et al., case number <u>2:19-cv-08696</u>, in the <u>U.S. District Court for the Central District of California</u>.

Los Angeles Times

Is California suffering a decades-long megadrought?

By Alex Wigglesworth, Staff Writer April 18, 2021 6 AM PT

California has entered another drought.

But depending on whom you ask, the last one may have never really ended.

Some researchers believe the region is actually more than two decades into an emerging "megadrought" — a hydrological event that is on par with the worst dry spells of the last millennium. Except this time, they say, human-caused climate change is driving its severity — and will make it that much harder to climb back out of.

"If this drought was totally due to natural variability, then we would at least have the comfort of knowing at some point, good luck is very likely to show up again and this is going to end," said Park Williams, a bioclimatologist and associate professor at UCLA.

"But the knowledge that a fair amount of this current drought is attributable to human-caused climate trends tells us that we may have not seen the worst yet."

Williams was the lead author of <u>a study published last year</u> in the journal Science that analyzed ring records from thousands of trees across western North America to reconstruct soil moisture over the last 1,200 years. Their research suggested that 2000 to 2018 was the second-driest period, eclipsed only by a megadrought in the late 1500s.

"This drought that we're in now over the last 22 years has been as severe as the worst 22-year periods of the worst megadroughts that occurred last millennium," Williams said.

The team estimated that human-caused climate trends have accounted for about 40% of the average soil moisture deficit in the 2000s.

"To put it in plain language, that means that without human-caused climate change, the West still would have had a pretty bad drought over the last couple of decades," Williams said. "But it wouldn't have been nearly as severe as the drought that actually occurred."

Other experts <u>are more skeptical</u>, saying that while the Colorado Basin may be facing megadrought conditions, the same can't yet be said for California. But they agree that warming

temperatures are making droughts worse and forcing the state to reckon with how it manages its water.

Seasonal droughts are typical in California, with its Mediterranean climate. Summers are usually dry, but water supplies are replenished in the winter and spring by rain and snowmelt.

Annual droughts are also nothing new. "You will have these dry years and then in between you will get these really, really wet years," said Safeeq Khan, assistant cooperative extension specialist of water and watershed sciences at the University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. "They can be what we describe as drought busters."

But research has indicated the wet periods are becoming more sporadic and intense, and the dry periods between them are growing longer and drier.

For instance, in 2017, <u>record rains filled surface reservoirs</u> that had dropped dramatically after five years of intensely dry conditions.

"From a water supply aspect, that ended the drought," said Doug Parker, director of the California Institute for Water Resources at UC Agriculture and Natural Resources. "From an ecosystem aspect, I don't think our forests and our natural lands that rely on rainfall ever fully recovered from that drought, and now we're into the next one."

It takes more than a year or two of adequate rainfall for plants to heal from years of being starved for moisture, Parker said, noting the dryness also left some trees vulnerable to <u>bark beetle</u> <u>infestations</u> from which they will never recover.

Groundwater supplies also take years to rebound, said Hoori Ajami, assistant professor of groundwater hydrology at UC Riverside, who is part of a team of researchers that analyzed data from wells affected by climate for a paper currently in peer review.

"Once your precipitation has recovered, that doesn't mean your stream flow is recovered or your groundwater is recovered," she said. "Our estimate is it could take for groundwater between three to 10 years on average to recover."

When rain falls intermittently, over time, it's able to be absorbed into the flood plain and aquifers and to fill surface reservoirs, all of which act as a buffer against future deficits.

"But if all that water comes in three, four or five big storms, then you run into situations like flood control, where you're trying to push that water to the sea as quickly as possible to protect communities and property," Khan said. "So our ability to absorb and store that rain diminishes when you have intense rainfalls."

On top of that, the wet years sprinkled throughout the 2000s, such as 2005 and 2019, simply weren't wet enough to make up for the long-term average moisture deficit that built up over the decades, Williams said. That supports the idea that we are in the opening chapter of a megadrought that's been taking shape this whole time, he said.

Not all experts agree that California is in a megadrought. Jay Lund, co-director of the Center for Watershed Sciences at UC Davis, said that 2017 ended the drought for most people in most places, and we are now seeing another, discrete event, albeit one that began while the region was still hurting from the last one. He wouldn't describe that as a megadrought.

"I think there's some truth to that certainly for the Colorado Basin, but I think as a more pragmatic matter for California, mostly not," he said.

And Khan cautioned against drawing conclusions based on models rather than data.

"Considering we only have observations that go back 100 years, it's very difficult to conclude with certainty that we are in a megadrought," Khan said. "If you just look at the annual precipitation departure, it does kind of indicate that we are heading in the direction, though."

Experts believe the increase in variability is being driven in part by <u>rising temperatures</u>, with the western U.S. about 2.5 to 3 degrees warmer than it would be without human-caused climate change, Williams said. The heat has also promoted drying, accelerating evaporation from canals and lakes.

"The temperature is getting warmer and warmer, so that creates a higher atmospheric deficit," Khan said. "Every time the plants open up for photosynthesis they're going to lose a lot more water because it's hot."

The shift has begun to disrupt the balance of California's natural water storage system. The majority of the state's precipitation falls between November and March, much of it in the Sierra Nevada in the form of snow. The snow sits around in mountainous areas for months before it melts in the spring and summer, sustaining the forest ecosystem through its dry period and trickling down into streams and reservoirs.

But rising temperatures are causing more precipitation to fall as rain rather than snow, and what snow does accumulate is melting earlier in the year.

"For the last 50 years or so, about every decade we see about a 1% shift of runoff from the spring to the winter, which is what you'd expect to see with a warmer climate," Lund said.

That means the water is no longer available when it's needed most, and it strains the flood-control network during a time of year that already tends to be wetter.

Earlier snowmelt also <u>helps prime forests for wildfires</u>. During wet years, mountainous areas are covered with snow until June or July, leaving only a two- or three-month window for fire season before fall rains return.

"But now, the snow is already gone, and we are just entering April," Khan said. "If we don't get any more storms, we're in deep trouble."

Already, vegetation is bone-dry and soil moisture is low, which portend an active fire season in western U.S. forests, said Williams, who has done research showing that the amount of forest area burned in a given year is tightly correlated with both temperature and dryness.

But last year's <u>record-breaking firestorms</u> were sparked by both <u>historic heat waves</u> and <u>an outbreak of dry lightning</u>. It remains to be seen whether those conditions repeat.

It's also unlikely that residents of California's urban areas will be told to cut back on water use this year, experts say. But they warn that if conditions persist, that could change.

"What we have to understand is we don't know next year," Parker said. "It's that unpredictability that makes it really difficult to manage water in California."



Unwelcome and tough to evict: California's costly, uphill battle against invasive species

Invasive species in Ventura County, like the quagga mussel found in Santa Paula and Lake Piru, have been difficult to keep at bay



It's nothing less than an invasion. Interlopers are coming into California by land, by sea...and by FedEx.

That's what happened with the European green crab, a voracious cannibal that stowed away in packages of worms sent by overnight delivery to commercial fishermen in California. Unknown to anyone, the tiny crustaceans were concealed in seaweed that wrapped the cargo and were freed into the Pacific when fishermen tossed it overboard.

Then the green crabs, which a century ago decimated the East Coast's shellfish industry, began to dine out in the Pacific, munching nearly everything in sight. Authorities made plans to rid the ocean of the pests.

But, as a research team from UC Davis discovered, invasive species don't go quietly. Nor do they react well to full-on assaults. In fact, years of diligent and costly crab removal from a Bay Area lagoon went terribly wrong, triggering an unexpected population explosion.

Still, this serendipity has led to a new, live-and-let-live approach to combat invasive species: forget about trying to wipe them out, and get them down to a manageable population instead.

The new strategy could be a game changer. An army of scientists and state biologists are spending millions of dollars annually in California to combat an increasing scourge

of invasive species — more than 1,700 types of plants, bugs and marine animals that are outcompeting, elbowing out and, in some cases, devouring native plants and animals.

California has "unique things that make us susceptible," given the enormous diversity of its environment, said Martha Volkoff, who manages the state Department of Fish and Wildlife's invasive species program. "We have a lot of risks that states that are more homogenous wouldn't have."

Costly to control, these invasives have damaged some California crops and critical flood control and water delivery systems.

California spends \$3 million a year attempting to eradicate nutria, a large, homely, orange-toothed rodent that destroys wetlands and bores holes into levees.

Another \$3 million a year goes to educating boaters about quagga mussels, which hitch rides on hulls and cling to equipment in the state's vast water transport system. And, for the last 20 years, authorities have spent more than \$34 million to manage Atlantic cordgrass in the San Francisco Bay-Delta.



These costs represent only a fraction of the costs "because eradication is rarely successful and control is an unending process," according to a report that state officials presented to the Legislature in January.

The environmental damage in the United States is estimated at \$120 billion to \$137 billion per year. One of California's most destructive foreign pests was the

Mediterranean fruit fly, which infested fruit orchards around the state beginning in the 1970s and cost hundreds of millions to combat.

The economic and environmental impacts are getting worse, abetted by a changing climate and a smaller world where exotic creatures can hitch a ride across the globe.

Efforts to get rid of invasives have mixed results, and sometimes make things worse, as when animals or insects are introduced to eradicate pests, and instead wind up becoming a new pest.

As with the stubborn little European green crab, attempts to erase them can backfire. Big time.

A case of crabs

For creatures with seemingly limited mobility, it's remarkable how easily invasive species move around the world.

The state has had a Marine Invasive Species Program for more than 20 years, a recognition that about 80% of non-native pests arrive in North America via international commercial ships. Much of the dispersal is accomplished with the help of unwitting humans, for example, in ballast water when seagoing vessels take on water then disgorge it along its path.

Then there's the panicked disposal of a once-cute pet, such as an alligator that's outgrown the family bathtub and released into a local canal or park lake. Or the silent menace of classroom aquariums, which it turns out, are abetting in the trafficking of invaders from Ukraine — zebra mussels, near the top of California's most-wanted list.

Zebra mussels filter out algae that native species need for food and they glom on to native mussels, incapacitating them, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The fingernail-sized mussels also congregate and clog water intake areas of power plants.



After years of an all-out campaign by state agencies to fend off the introduction of zebra and quagga mussels, a highly-efficient commercial distribution chain unleashed the pests in the state.

In 2013, the quagga infested Lake Piru – the man-made reservoir in eastern Ventura County.

By late summer and early fall of 2017, the invasive mussels were discovered for the first time in the Santa Clara River under bridges in Santa Paula and Piru and were uncovered living under creek cobbles near Piru, just upstream from the river.

"Moss balls, which are placed in home aquariums, are infested with tiny zebra mussels," Volkoff said. "They were found in Washington, (in moss balls) imported from Ukraine. Then they came into California from a distributor that supplied two national pet store chains across 49 states. Now we have zebra mussels on shelves of big-box pet stores. We didn't see that coming."

Invasive marine animals can move about by attaching themselves to marine equipment and hidden in bait buckets. Sometimes they don't even need human help: Green crab larvae can bob along in ocean currents for as long as three months. They are models of adaptability, growing and molting wherever they wash up, immediately establishing themselves as the new local bullies.

Green crabs, which are native to Europe, have decimated shellfish industries in South Africa, Brazil, Asia and Australia. They made their way to California, where they were first noted in the 1980s, and are moving up the coast to British Columbia and off Alaska, threatening the Pacific

shellfish catch. The crabs are too small —3 to 5 inches at full growth — to wind up on dinner plates as a viable commercial harvest.



In 2009, researchers mounted a project to remove European green crabs from Seadrift Lagoon, at the northern end of Stinson Beach in Marin County.

In Seadrift Lagoon, crabs damage eelgrass beds, which are critical for young fish. They also have pushed out (or eaten) native crabs that provide food for shore birds.

So far they've had no significant impact on the area's lucrative commercial crabbing, officials say, but the Dungeness Crab Task Force is keeping a wary eye on them. Green crabs are not picky eaters and can mow through scallops, soft shelled crabs, mussels and clams. They use their outsized claws as shovels and then crack the shells.

Funded by about \$500,000 in federal grants, Ted Grosholz, a professor and ecologist at the UC Davis Department of Environmental Science and Policy, has spent more than a decade trying to evict green crabs from the lagoon.

His team used a straightforward approach: absolute eradication of the adult crab population in Seadrift Lagoon. Aided by platoons of volunteers, scientists baited traps with smelly leftovers from fish processing operations. Then they waited.

The adult population was estimated at about 125,000 in 2009. Four years later, the trapping had reduced them to about 10,000.

With that news, Grosholz and colleagues at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and Portland State University were preparing to write an academic paper detailing their success.

The crabs had different plans.

Like house guests overstaying their welcome, they proved to be nearly impossible to boot out.





Survival of the fittest

When biologists say that non-natives "out-compete" natives, they don't intend it as a metaphor. Almost across the board, invasive species have singular attributes that allow them to land on their feet and take over.

Grosholz is almost admiring when he describes the characteristics of European green crabs that allow them to thrive wherever they wash up. "It has a suite of traits that make it a good invader," he said. "They are physiologically tougher than a lot of other crabs. They are more tolerant of variable salinity. They are very tolerant of terrible conditions."

Kate Bimrose, with the Greater Farallones Association, supervised volunteer data recording for the green crab research, but also managed her own invasive emergency at nearby Bolinas Lagoon. European beach grass and ice plants were pushing out native dune and saltmarsh plants on an island there.

The invasive plants were classic: "Admirable, adaptable and ferocious," Bimrose said.

Ice plants don't enjoy salt water, so Bimrose and her crew set up pumps with the idea to drown the ice plants with salty water, a project operated by the Marin County Parks Department. "It was a great idea, but it proved to be difficult," she said, repeating a familiar refrain among those trying to eradicate invaders.

The team also tried pulling up the plants and piling them in a massive heap, allowing them to dry out and decompose naturally. But the disembodied plants, in an effort to survive, sent out creepers in search of ground to re-establish themselves. Like zombie ice plants.

Unlike native animals and plants that don't have weapons or immunity to fend off predators, invasive species are willing to kill to maintain a foothold in a new ecosystem.

Black Mustard plants, leggy green plants with showy yellow flowers, sprout in areas where wildfires have scorched vegetation. Native plants can be picky, temperamental and slow to grow, but not so the mustard, which, given an inch, will take over a hillside.

Even its dead stalks produce a chemical that inhibits the ability of other plants to grow around it.

Volkoff has a special disdain for the stout American bullfrog, which was brought to California from the Midwest during the Gold Rush for food and insect control. They carry a fungal disease that infects native amphibians, including rare species.

Some troublemakers are so appealing that their beauty masks their malevolence. Take the Pacific purple sea urchin — the state of California dearly wishes someone would.

The colorful, spiny creatures take advantage of twin calamities: warming seas and a disease that killed starfish, its main predator. Purple urchins have been decimating much of the coast's kelp forests, triggering a state of emergency.

The urchins are an example of a native species becoming invasive, a distinction critical to understanding invasive species management. It's not as important to identify a species as native or non-native, Volkoff said, but rather focus on its ability to do damage. The federal definition cites the potential to cause harm to the environment, the economy or public health.

The business of eradicating invasive species is nothing if not humbling. The UC Davis team was elated in 2013 after removing 90% of Seadrift Lagoon's green crabs. But then, a census the next year revealed a surprise: A green crab baby boom, with about 300,000 swimming around, nearly triple the pre-eradication population.

Grosholz and the team were dumbfounded. "This was so unexpected. We thought, 'What happened, what did we do?" he said. "We were almost at the finish line. We've wasted all this money, all this effort. We've failed miserably."

Upon reflection, the scientists realized they had not taken into account that the crabs are cannibals. They are not sentimental when it comes to devouring their own young, or those of their neighbors. So when the volunteers eliminated the adults — mature crabs that would have culled the population — juvenile crabs had the run of the place. And their populations surged.



In a paper published in March, Grosholz and his co-author identified a "hydra effect," a reference to the mythical serpent that grew two heads for each one that was removed. Their allout eradication approach was heavy-handed, they concluded.

Grosholz said the findings could become a game plan for fish and wildlife authorities: Rather than attempting to wipe out an entire population and possibly unleash unintended consequences, try "functional eradication," reducing invasives to a level low enough to protect native species, but not so low that it triggers a population explosion.

The work to control the crabs is ongoing, this time using the new technique. The lagoon now is home to about 50,000 — less than half as many as a decade ago.

"Whenever you get something that's unexpected in science, you need to look at it," Grosholz said. "This is an important result, the management lesson is going to be important."

In the war against invasive species, you learn to take what victories you can get.

Julie Cart joined CalMatters as a projects and environment reporter in 2016 after a long career at the Los Angeles Times, where she held many positions: sportswriter, national correspondent and environment reporter.

Forbes

Southern California Water Price Jumps 48% In 3 Weeks As Rainy Season Disappoints

April 9, 2021 Sal Gilbertie, Contributor



File photo of Shasta Lake at approximately 50 percent full in Shasta, California.

Californians received a double dose of not so happy water news last month; cutbacks were made to water allocations and a key water price index surged higher. Drought fears are heightening due to low reservoir levels and below normal snowpack.

The winter precipitation season generally ends with the month of March, and it looks like California will head into summer with lower water supplies than last year after a second consecutive winter of below normal rain and snowpack. The state's Department of Water Resources has wasted no time in sounding alarm bells; officials have already announced 50 percent cutbacks from December 2020's projected water allotments to State Water Project allocations for the 2021 water year. California residents were warned "to plan for the impacts of limited water supplies this summer for agriculture as well as urban and rural water users."

Normal October through March rain and snowfall patterns have fallen short of what's needed to replenish California's diminished water supplies, which means the winter precipitation season has ended again with below normal reservoir water levels and low snowpack in the mountains. Things could certainly change with heavy unexpected precipitation, but hopes are dimming fast as the dry season commences. It looks like Californians will have to wait for the monsoon season that begins in mid-June before there is a higher chance for replenishing rains again.

The privately issued <u>Veles Weekly Water Report</u> dated April 8, 2021 had Shasta Lake, California's largest reservoir, at 53 percent of its acre foot water storage capacity, down from 79

percent in the equivalent week last year. The same report shows statewide California snowpack levels at just 61 percent of the snow water equivalent (SWE) inches normally measured as of April first in any given year.

Statistics like these as of the end of March have set off alarm bells amongst state officials and water industry participants around California; water prices have reacted accordingly. The Nasdaq Veles California Water Index (NQH2O), a weekly water price metric published every Wednesday morning at 6:30am (Pacific Time) has jumped an incredible 48 percent in just the three publication weeks from March 17, 2021 when water was priced at \$529.58 per acre foot, through April 7, 2021 when the price hit \$783.94. The index tracks actual water transactions only in select areas of Southern California, but it is a publicly available price metric that illustrates the tightening supply/demand situation in what is undoubtedly California's - and the world's - most important commodity.

There are <u>futures that track the Nasdaq Veles California Water Index (NQH2O)</u>, but they are only a few months old and not yet widely traded, which means few, if any, water users in California were able to price hedge the cost of their 2021 summertime water needs prior to the dramatic price rally. Indeed, the futures as of this writing, April 9, 2021 are quoted at a slight premium to the most recent weekly (April 7, 2021) Nasdaq Veles California Water Index (NQH2O) price posting, indicating continuing expectations for elevated water prices, at least for now and probably so long as there isn't a significant rain event in California.

Time will tell, but right now the weather and the markets are both signaling that Californians should prepare for an extended period of high water prices.